TWENTY PAGES.

HAVE YOU SEEN THE LATEST
B.S.A. Model W
Price Rs. 126/- complete.
Wellington Cycle & Motor Co.,
Hornby Road, Fort, BOMBAY.

The Bombay Chronicle

HAVE YOU SEEN THE LATEST
B.S.A. Model W
Price Rs. 126/- complete.
Wellington Cycle & Motor Co.
Hornby Road, Fort, BOMBAY.

FOUNDED BY SIR PHEROZESHAH M. MEHTA IN 1913.

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VOL XV NO 14— BOMBAY MONDAY JANUARY 17 1927

SHIPPING

P. & O. BRITISH INDIA.

(Incorporated in England.)

MAIL & PASSENGERS SERVICE.

P. and O. SAILINGS to PLYMOUTH AND LONDON CALLING AT MARSEILLES.

All passengers are required to be in possession of passports.

Date	Steamers.	Connecting at Aden with	Tons.
1927			
22 Jan.	RAZMAK ..	MALWA* ..	10,940
29 „	RANCHI ..	...	16,550
5 Feb.	RAZMAK ..	MALOJAx ..	20,830
12 „	RAJPUTANA..	...	16,568
19 „	RAZMAK ..	MOREA* ..	10,918
20 „	RAWALPINDI	...	16,619
5 Mar.	RAZMAK ..	NALDERAx ..	15,993
12 „	RANPURA ..	...	16,585
19 „	RAZMAK† ..	...	10,602
23 „	CHINA‡ ..	...	7,952
26 „	KAISAR-I HIND ..	...	11,430
2April	NARKUNDAx	...	16,227
9 „	RANCHI ..	...	16,650
16 „	RAZMAK† ..	...	10,602
23 „	RAJPUTANA	...	16,568
30 „	MOOLTANx..	...	20,847
7 May	RAWALPINDI ..	...	16,619
14 „	RAZMAK ..	MALWA* ..	10,940
21 „	RANPURA ..	...	16,585
28 „	DELTA ..	MALOJA x ..	20,837
4 June	KAISAR-I-HIND	...	11,430
11 „	RAZMAK ..	MOREA* ..	10,918
18 „	CHINA ..	...	7,952
25 „	RAZMAK ..	NALDERAx ..	15,993
2 July	RAJPUTANA.	...	16,568
9 „	RAZMAK ..	MANTUA* ..	10,902

A Through steamers from Australia have limited accommodation for passengers from India.

* Through steamers from China have Limited accommodation for passengers from India

† Terminates voyage at Marseilles.

‡ First Class Passengers only.

xExtra Steamer at following reduced rates

1—1st Saloon to London £80, £70 & £60.
" to Marseilles £72, £62 & £56
2—2nd Saloon to London £54, & £52,
" to Marseilles £50, & £48.

The difference in Passage Rates is according to the position of the Cabins.

Very special berthing arrangements have been made to ensure the comfort of Passengers proceeding by the "China."

SPECIAL OFF SEASON RETURN TICKETS.

First Saloon Return Tickets at Special Reduced Rates will be issued for any Mail Steamer during the period commencing from Bombay with the sailing of the S.S. "KAISAR I HIND" on the 4th June 1927 and terminating with the steamer due in Bombay on the 23rd September. The accommodation allotted will be the best available in the First Saloon at the time of application. The fares will be as follows:—

To London and back by sea	£105
To London and back via Marseilles including P. and O. Special Train Across France in both directions	£120
To Marseilles and back	£100

BRITISH INDIA SAILINGS.

Bombay to Port Said and Plymouth.

Date about	Steamers.	Tons.
1927		
10th March	DUMANA ..	8,127
24th „	MANDALA ..	8,246
14th April	MARGHA ...	8,258
5th May	DOMALA ..	8,441

On most of the P. & O. Mail steamers and on the B.I. Home Line Steamers Cots for Infants are available at a charge of £3 for the voyage. Application for these Cots should be made well in advance.

P. & O. SAILINGS TO COLOMBO, STRAITS CHINA, JAPAN and AUSTRALIA.

1927		
18th Jan.	NELLORE .. CHITRAL ..	China & Japan At Colombo for Australia
30th „	SHANGHAI MARU ..	To Japan.
1st Feb.	NYANZA .. NARKUNDA ..	China & Japan At Colombo for Australia
1st March	DEVANHA .. MOOLTAN ..	China & Japan At Colombo for Australia
15th „	DELTA .. COMORIN ..	China & Japan At Colombo for Australia
29th „	NELLORE .. MALOJA ..	China & Japan At Colombo for Australia
12th April	NYANZA .. MOLDAVIA ..	China & Japan At Colombo for Australia

SHIPPING

N Y. K. LINE

SINGAPORE CHINA & JAPAN

Steamers.	Tons.	Arrive.	Leave
SADO MARU	5898	30 Dec.	17 Jan.
CHOFUKU M.	..	12 Jan.	21 Jan.
YAMAGATA M.	3807	9 Jan.	19 Jan.
xGENOA MARU	6785	19 Jan.	24 Jan.
BIYO MARU	5480	17 Jan	2 Feb.
*TAMBA MARU	5845	29 Jan.	12 Feb.

* Passenger Steamers.

xProceeds to Karachi.

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

Canada Building, Hornby Road, Bombay.
Phone No. 20279. Telegrams: "Yusen."

THE SCINDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LTD.

FORTNIGHTLY SERVICES BETWEEN

1. Rangoon, Bombay, Karachi, via Malabar,
2. Rangoon, Madras, Colombo.
3. Calcutta and Karachi via Cast Ports.
4. Rangoon, Calcutta, according in demand.

For freights and other particulars apply to:—

Messrs. NAROTTAM MORARJEE & CO., Agents.
Ballard Estate, BOMBAY

TO SECURE

Growth of perfect health, purity of body and nobleness of soul, please go through our booklet

"BRAHMA CHARYA"

(Continence)

Sent gratis and post free on writing to:—

Atank Nigrah Pharmacy,
JAMNAGAR.

Bombay Widows' Pension Fund, Ltd.

ESTABLISHED 1876.
NO. 35, MEDOWS STREET,
Behind Currency Bank.
FUNDED CAPITAL RS. 2,72,700.

Investments in Government and Approved Securities only.

Perfect Economy in management. The supervision as to Rates, Mortality, Investigation and Valuation was entrusted to an experienced European Actuary.

The object is to make provisions for the widows of subscribers to a monthly pension from Rs. 5 to Rs. 50 without distinction of caste or creed. Rates of subscription are very moderate. 30 per cent. surrender value in case the wife pre-deceased. Twelve months' grace if occupation is lost.

25 per cent. Commission to Canvassers on First 12 months' subscription.

For details apply for a Copy of Rules to:
GAJANAN SADANAND DESAI,
Secretary and Treasurer.

BRITISH INDIA SAILINGS TO AFRICA, KARACHI, PERSIAN GULF, TUTICORIN, COLOMBO, MADRAS, CALCUTTA & RANGOON.

1927			
17th Jan.	VITA ..	Karachi via Kathiawar coast ports.	
19th „	KARAPARA ..	East & S. Africa.	
19th „	BARALA ..	Busreh via Karachi & P. Gulf.	
21st „	VASNA ..	Busreh via Karachi	
22nd „	CHAKLA ..	Karachi via Kathiawar coast ports	

There will be sailings for Karachi on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays every week. Local passengers for Karachi can only proceed by the Friday sailings when accommodation is not required for passengers ex the P. and O. Mail steamer or through passengers to Busreh.

Terms and Rates of Freights and Passage may be arranged with

MACKINNON MACKENZIE & CO.,
Ballard Road, Fort, Bombay.

KATNI
FIRE BRICKS
FIRECLAY
BOILER SEATING BLOCKS
FLUE COVERS
AND
REFRACTORY GOODS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

IMMEDIATE DELIVERY FROM BOMBAY STOCKS.

AGENTS:— C. MACDONALD & CO., LAXMI BUILDING, BALLARD ROAD, FORT, BOMBAY.
TELEPHONE No. 20418.

BANKING

Punjab National Bank, Limited.

ESTABLISHED 1895.

Capital Authorised	1,00,00,000
Capital Issued	50,00,000
Capital Subscribed	50,00,000
Reserved Fund upto 30-6-26	25,50,000
Capital Paid up upto 30-6-26 ...	30,92,651

HEAD OFFICE:- LAHORE.

Rs.

Abohar	Hyderabad (Sind)	Montgomery Montgomery).
Allahabad	Jullundur	Okara (Dist.
Amritsar	Jaranwalla	Peshawar Cant.
Amballa City	Jammu	Peshawar City
Amballa Cant.	Jhelum City	Patiala
Bombay	Jhang	Quetta
Cawnpore	(Maghiana)	Rawalpindi
Calcutta	Karachi	Sangla Hill
Delhi	Kasur	Sargodha
D. I. Khan	Lahore City	Sialkot City
Ferozepore	Lyallapur	Simla
Gujranwalla	Ludhiana	Srinagar
Gojra	Meerut City	
Hafizabad	Multan City	
Hoshiarpur		

LONDON AGENTS:—
THE MIDLAND BANK LTD.
AMERICAN AGENTS:—
AMERICAN EXCHANGE IRVING TRUST COMPANY

CURRENT ACCOUNTS are opened and interest allowed at 3 per cent. from January to June and 2½ per cent. from July to December, at Bombay on a minimum daily balance of Rs. 500 to Rs. 1,00,000.

FIXED DEPOSITS are received for 12 months and shorter periods at rates of Interest which can be ascertained on application.

SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS:—Sums as low as Rs. 10 received and interest allowed at 4½ per cent. per annum.

LOANS, OVERDRAFTS and CASH CREDITS:—The Bank grants accommodation on terms to be arranged against approved securities.

CHEQUES, HUNDIS, BILLS, etc., on outstations are bought, collected and discounted.

For other particulars and rules of business apply to:—

SHIV DATTA,
Manager.
Sassoon House,
Churchgate Street, Bombay.

AMRUTANJAN

is the last word in the cure for aches and pains. 25 years of increasing sales prove this fact.

AMRUTANJAN

is the only Indian pain balm used in millions of homes. It certainly

CURES ALL

aches, pains, swelling, sprain, stiff joints, cold, cough, cuts, bruises chilblains, rheumatism, backache and a host of other pain troubles. Cost 10 Annas.

Sold Everywhere.

It kills and cures all

ACHES AND PAINS

INSURANCE

Western India Life Insurance Co., Ltd.

HEAD OFFICE:—Satara City.

PROGRESS OF THE COMPANY.

Valuation.	Year.	Surplus disclosed.
First	1917	Rs 11,532
Second	1920	Rs 27,737
Third	1923	Rs 1,16,544

No other Company started within 25 years could show equal results at the same age.

Excellent opportunity for reliable energetic men of position and ability to represent the Company.

For agency and other particulars please apply to:—

THE MANAGING DIRECTOR,
Satara City.

The Bombay Chronicle

BUSINESS NOTICE.

BUSINESS communications of every kind (advertisements, changes of address, etc.) should be addressed to the MANAGER. Advertisements intended for insertion in the next day's paper must reach the office not later than 5 p. m.

ALL REMITTANCES should be made payable to the "Bombay Chronicle" and cheques crossed.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIBERS whose copies of the "Bombay Chronicle" are delayed in delivery will facilitate enquiry into the cause of the irregularity by noting the date of the paper on the wrapper, and sending it to the Manager.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

Daily Edition.

	Local	Mofussil.
1 Year ..	Rs. 20	Rs. 25
6 Months ..	Rs. 10	Rs. 12-8
3 Months ..	Rs. 5	Rs. 6-4
1 Month ..	Rs. 1-14	Rs. 2-4

Subscription to Foreign Countries Rs. 50 per year.

SINGLE COPY ONE ANNA.

SUNDAY EDITION

	Local.	Mofussil.	Foreign.
Yearly	Rs. 3/8	Rs. 4	Rs. 7

PAYMENTS STRICTLY IN ADVANCE

The Sunday Edition must be subscribed for not less than one year.

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Income-Tax & Super-Tax

Statutory Statement of Account prepared; Audit of Books of Firms UNDERTAKEN.

B. L. THOSAR PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT
626-627, Kalbadevi Road, BOMBAY.

INSURANCE

HINDUSTHAN CO-OPERATIVE INSURANCE SOCIETY, LTD. (Calcutta.)

ASSETS ..... Exceed Rs. 80,00,000.
NEW BUSINESS (1925-26) Over Rs. 60,00,000.

RESULTS OF 3rd VALUATION—(as at 30-4-'22):—
A reversionary BONUS OF Rs. 75/- per thousand for the quinquennium and a brilliant forecast for the future.

POLICY CONDITIONS: LIBERAL and free from vexatious terms. AUTOMATIC EXTENSION of policies a speciality.

MANAGEMENT:—DEMOCRATIC under patriotic leaders and successful businessmen without any intermediate vested interest.

PREMIUM RATES:—LOWEST consistent with safety. THE SOCIETY has of late introduced WITHOUT PROFIT TABLES which afford maximum insurance at minimum cost.

It will amply repay the PROSPECTIVE INSURERS to enquire of the "HINDUSTHAN" before they decide where to insure.

Applications for Agencies are invited from gentlemen in position to influence business.

For further particulars apply to:—

N. DATTA,
Manager,
Bombay Branch.
Commissariat Building, Hornby Road,
BOMBAY.

VULCAN INSURANCE Co., Ltd.

(Incorporated in India.)

Fire, Marine, Motor Car and Workman's Compensation Insurance transacted.

Chairman—Sir Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy, Bart.
Chief Agents—Messrs. Currimbhoy Ebrahim & Son, Ltd.
Head Office—Jehangir Wadia Building, Esplanade Road, Fort, BOMBAY.

RELIABLE AGENTS WANTED IN UNREPRESENTED DISTRICTS.

BOMBAY LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

(Established 1908.)

A FIRST CLASS INDIAN COMPANY TO INSURE ONE'S LIFE IN.

Please compare our rates and conditions before insuring elsewhere.

S. F. CARDMASTER, Manager
Apollo Street, Fort.

CLASSIFIED ADVT.

Readers, Private Short Advertisements are inserted in these columns at the following rates:—

HALF ANNA

PER WORD

CASH MUST ACCOMPANY ORDER.

The full name and address of the advertiser is required, not necessarily for publication.

Advertisers who do not wish their names and addresses published will be given a Box number. The words: Apply Box No.—Advertisement Department, 'Bombay Chronicle,' to be paid for.

Answers to advertisements should be addressed as follows:—Box Number— Advertisement Department, "Bombay Chronicle" Office, Bombay.

Unclaimed replies to advertisements are destroyed after one month.

SITUATIONS VACANT

WANTED—A clever and experienced SALESMAN for fancy goods lines, good references essential. Apply JHAVERI BROS AND CO., Crawford Market.
A 27989

WANTED—An experienced GRADUATE or UNDER-GRADUATE as Head Master for the Gujarati A. V. School, Rangoon. Salary Rs. 100—10—250 with Provident Fund benefit. Apply to G. A. V. SCHOOL, P.O. Box 263, Rangoon.
A R1402

WANTED.—A LADY PRINCIPAL for the Muslim Girls School Lucknow, starting salary Rs. 250/- per mensem according to qualification. Apply with testimonials to Mr. M. WASIM, Bar-at-Law,
A 27990
Dali Bagh, Lucknow.

WANTED—A MECHANICAL ENGINEER, competent to look after Power House Machinery composed of Diesel and Rustom Engines, Workshop and pumping plants. Only practical hands need apply sending copies of testimonials which will not be returned. Pay 200 to 400 rupees per mensem according to qualifications. Quarters free. Apply Box No. 1897, Advt. Dept., "Bombay Chronicle."
A R1404

WANTED TRAVELLING AGENTS.—Experienced in Railway services and knowing any language. Pay, Commission and other facilities will be given according to qualifications. Desirers should at once either see personally or apply for particulars stating their present and past experience in details with full and clear address having name, age, occupation, place, post-office, district and railway station; written into English, Marathi or Gujarathi. MANAGER, The Khandesh Laxmi Vilas Mills Co., Ltd., Jalgaon, E. K.
A R1399

SITUATIONS WANTED

WANTED—ACCOUNTANCY or AUDIT WORK or TUITION by a Parsi Government Diplomate in Accountancy, conversant in Auditing, at very moderate fee in morning or evening. Apply Box No. 1898 Advt. Dept., "Bombay Chronicle."
B R1405

PHOTOGRAPHY.

PHOTOGRAPHS.

Photographs of general interest are invited from readers from all parts of India for publication in "The Chronicle." Preference will be given to topical photographs on subjects of political, general, engineering, scientific or other interest. Accepted photographs will be paid for on publication, at usual rates.

The Editor undertakes no responsibility for the return of unaccepted photographs, but every endeavour will be made to return rejected photographs, accompanied by stamped addressed envelopes. All photographs must be sent to the

EDITOR,
"Bombay Chronicle,"
Modowa Street, Fort, Bombay.

HOUSES & FLATS TO LET

TO LET—At Thakoredwar, 7 rooms singly or separately to Hindus in a new building, suitable for school or hospital. Apply Box No. 1896, Advt. Dept., "Bombay Chronicle."
C R1401

FINE BUSINESS SITE TO LET.—Lands and sheds, measuring 9,111 square yards; best situation for factory and other business in Sewri Bunder. Near Electric Railway station; every convenience; available on reasonable terms. Apply sharp to, SHUAIB, QURESHI, Hon. Secretary, The Chhotani Saw Mills, Sewri Bunder, Bombay.
C 27968

EDUCATIONAL.

ACCOUNTANCY DIPLOMA courses by post, Tuition free. Exam. in June. Apply prospectus. C. C. EDUCATION, P.O. Junnar, POONA.
M R3672

THE ROYAL HOMOEOPATHIC INSTITUTE, No. 1, Meerut. (Registered under Act XXI of 1860). Teaches Homoeopathy, Electro-Homoeopathy, Biochemistry, Dentistry and Ayurvedic, both by regular training and correspondence and grants Diplomas. Supplies medicines and accessories at cheap rates. Treats chronic and complicated cases. Please apply for prospectus to Dr. R. R. GUPTA, H.M.D. PRINCIPAL, Meerut.
M R1395

TRADE ANNOUNCEMENTS

CORRESPONDENTS AND AGENTS everywhere. Remuneration lucrative —Apply "KHABARDAR," Ambala City, enclosing 0-1-0.
R1408.

FOR SALE AND WANTED.

WANTED—"One self-acting S. S. and S. C. 6" center 6'-0" Gap bed Lathe. Hollow spindle to take 2" bar. Turret tool holder for four tools. One four jaw chuck, one self centering bar chuck, one face plate, travelling stay. To be complete with counter shaft, striking gear and change wheels. New or in New condition." —Apply Box No. 1900, Advt. Department, Bombay Chronicle.
N. 27997.

FINANCIAL.

300 to 400 Rs. monthly gaining by investing 2,000 Rs. only. Apply to J. S. ENGINEER, Parsi St., Ankleswar, B. B. & C. I. Railway.
R R1396

HOTELS.

CALCUTTA HOTEL LD

MIRZAPUR SQUARE, NORTH, CALCUTTA.

Premier and Largest Hotel for Indian Ladies and Gentlemen. Charges Rs. 10, 6, 4 and 2-8 per diem.
Telegrams:—"CALHOTEL."

PUBLIC NOTICES.

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS Legal and Public Notifications are published in these columns at the following rates:—

	Per Column Inch per Insertion.
1st Insertion ..	.. Rs. 7-8-0
2nd Insertion ..	.. Rs. 5-8-0
3rd Insertion ..	.. Rs 4-8-0
4th & Subsequent Insertions ..	.. Rs. 3-8-0

Mofussil advertisers are requested to send remittance in advance and state clearly, whether they wish to insert their advertisements in these columns or in the classified short advertisement columns.

NOTICE.

READY FOR SALE—COTTON WASTES: Opener, Droping, Card fly, Oily and Weaving Dirty, etc., Highest offers required.

Address to the Agent BANKTESHWAR COTTON MILLS, Bhiwani.
27813

PUBLIC NOTICES.

THE BOMBAY ELECTRIC SUPPLY AND TRAMWAYS COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the PREFERENCE SHARE TRANSFER BOOKS of this Company will be CLOSED from the 24th January to the 7th day of February, 1927, both days inclusive, for the preparation of Dividend Warrants for the half-year ending 15th February, 1927.

Intimation as to change of address should be notified to the Company immediately.

By Order of the BOARD,
P. D. MAHALUXMIVALA.
Secretary,

Bombay, 15th January, 1927.
27995.

GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY.

DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

TENDERS FOR THE SUPPLY OF MURUM ON ROYALTY.

THE CHIEF ENGINEER, Back Bay Reclamation Scheme, invites sealed offers in respect of ROYALTY CHARGES for the supply of murum from SOURCES IN SALSETTE for the Back Bay Reclamation Scheme.

Tenderers are required merely to offer sources of supply without any liability to arrange for excavation and transport.

Offers should be delivered in the Office of the Chief Engineer, Back Bay Reclamation Scheme, Old Custom House Yard, Fort, Bombay, on the 15th February, 1927, before 2 p.m. (S.T.)

Earnest money in cash or Government Securities, amounting to 5 per cent of the total Royalty should be paid into the Audit Office, Bombay Development Scheme, before submitting offers, the receipts for which shall be produced at the time of handing in offers. This will be returned to unsuccessful tenderers but will be retained together with 5 per cent of monthly payments for Royalty, as a security deposit in the case of accepted offers until the quantity of murum required is removed from the site.

The right is reserved of rejecting any or all offers without assigning any reasons.

Tender forms and conditions of Contract, etc., can be had on payment of Rs. 2 per set on application during working days to the Office of [illegible]

Officer on special duty in connection with the Back Bay Reclamation Scheme, Old Custom House Yard, Fort Bombay.
27994

LEGAL NOTICES.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY.

TESTAMENTARY AND INTESTATE JURISDICTION.

GEORGE V, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas, King, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India.

Petition for Letters of Administration of the joint Hindu Family property and credits of CHHABILDAS VRAJLAL MEHTA alias CHHABILAL VRAJLAL MEHTA, of Bombay Hindu Inhabitant, a Merchant, residing at Ghatkopar, without the Fort of Bombay. ..... Deceased.

VRAJLAL PURSHOTTAM MEHTA, of Bombay, Hindu Inhabitant, a Merchant, father of the deceased abovenamed the head surviving male member of the joint Hindu family residing at Ghatkopar, without the Fort of Bombay ... Petitioner.

All persons claiming to have any interest in the Estate of the abovenamed deceased are hereby cited to come and see the Proceedings if they think fit before the Grant of Letters of Administration.

Witness Sir AMBERSON BARRINGTON MARTEN, Knight, Chief Justice at Bombay aforesaid, this tenth day of January in the year of our Lord One thousand nine hundred and twenty-seven and in the seventeenth year of our Reign

Seal of the High Court at Bombay.

(Sd.) R. B. PATEL,
Ag. Registrar.

(Sd.) E. J. DAVAR.

The 10th day of January, 1927.

Messrs. VRAJLAL & CO.,
Petitioner's Attorneys.
27996

PUBLIC NOTICES.

NOW OPEN

THE 36TH EXHIBITION of the Bombay Art Society at the TOWN HALL from 8-30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Admission by tickets available at the door.
27976

WANTED

A HINDU LADY SUB-ASSISTANT SURGEON for the Main dispensary Raigarh. Pay according to the qualifications. Apply with testimonials to the undersigned.

(Sd.) GAURI SHANKAR AGNIHOTRI,
Administrator,
Raigarh State.

Raigarh, C.P.
10th Jan., 1927. 27985

LEGAL NOTICES.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY

ORDINARY ORIGINAL CIVIL JURISDICTION.

Suit No. 2409 of 1925.

BUNDEALLI BHOJABHAI and others ..... Plaintiffs.

Vs.

BEHRAMJI PALLONJI ELLAVIA. ..... Defendant.

PURSUANT to the Decree Absolute for Sale made in the above Suit and bearing date the 7th day of April, 1926, the following immoveable property will be sold by Public Auction by the Commissioner of this Honourable Court at his Office in the Court House on Monday, the 14th day of February 1927, at the hour of 4-30 o'clock in the afternoon (Standard Time).

PARTICULARS.

LOT NO. I.

PROPERTY AT LADY HARDINGE ROAD, MATUNGA.

All that piece or parcel of land of the Pension and Tax Tenure situate on the South side of Lady Hardinge Road and on the West side of Manmala Tank Road at Matunga in the City of Bombay together with the messuages tenements or dwelling house standing thereon, containing by admeasurement two thousand four hundred and forty-seven square yards or thereabouts being a portion of a large piece of land admeasuring about five thousand two hundred and eighty-two square yards, situate within the registration Sub-District of Bombay and registered by the Collector of Land Revenue under Old Nos. 206, 289, 571, New No. A/3852, Old Survey No. 1/175, New Survey No. 1A/1389 and Cadastral Survey No. 549 of Matunga Division and assessed by the Assessor and Collector of Municipal Rates and Taxes under Ward G Nos. 4037 and 4047, 4039 to 4043 and 4046, Street Nos. 398, 400 to 404 and 407 and bounded as follows, on or towards the North by Lady Hardinge Road, on or towards the South by the property of Bhandari Jaganath Raghunath Moray, on or towards the West by the property of Dhondi Bhikaji Moray and on or towards the East by Manmala Tank Road.

LOT NO. II.

PROPERTY AT TARDEO ROAD.

All that piece or parcel of land together with the Buildings standing thereon, admeasuring 717 1/3 square yards being a portion of land and premises, situate at Tardeo Road in the Registration Sub-District of Bombay, registered along with other lands in the books of the Collector of Land Revenue under New Survey No. 1-2/3392 and Cadastral Survey No. 366, Tardeo Division and assessed by the Bombay Municipality under D Ward No. 3854(2) Street No. 2 and bounded as follows that is to say on or towards the East by Plot No. 2B, on or towards the West by plot No. 1, on or towards the North by the property of Nagin-chand Fulchand and on or towards the South by the proposed private passage.

For further particulars and conditions of sale, application should be made at the Office of the said Commissioner or at the Office of Messrs. Tyabji Dayabhai and Co., Attorneys for the Plaintiffs abovenamed at Ismail Building, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.

Dated this 16th day of December, 1926.

(Sd.) H. H. WADIA,
Commissioner.
27966

AUCTION SALES.

CRAWFORD & CO.

AUCTIONEERS.

WEEKLY SALE.

SALE TO-DAY AT 2-30 P.M. (S.T.) AUCTION SALE OF HOUSEHOLD AND OFFICE FURNITURE, SAFES, TAPIOCA PEARLS, PIECE-GOODS, WATER PROOF COATS, CAROZO BUTTONS, SOUP-TUREENS, STEW-PANS, INSOLVENTS' GOLD AND SILVER ORNAMENTS, PEDHI GOODS, SEWING MACHINE, ETC.

Messrs. CRAWFORD & CO. will sell by Public Auction THIS DAY (MONDAY), the 17th January 1927, at 2-30 p.m. (S.T.) at their Auction Rooms at No. 122, Apollo Street, Fort, the following:—

Household furniture consisting of mirror door almyrahs, writing and dressing tables, teak and iron cots, office chairs, safes, etc.

By the order of B. N. Lang, Esq., the Official Assignee of Bombay and Assignee of the estate and effects of the following insolvents:—

(1) Re. Estate of Charles Stavely Wilson & Robert Shepherd traded as Shepherd & Co., (Insolvents):—Sewing machine, tables, chair, turnks, &c.

(2) Re: Estate of Jinabhoy Bhimabhoy Desai (Insolvent):—

Gold beads, studs, mangal sutar, Rajpuri gold ornaments, silver vanks, gotes, todas, kandoras, rings, hansli, velas, silver bar and pieces, etc., and show case, clock, weighing scales, weights, mehta boxes, tools and implements, &c.

By the order of the offices concerned:—
10 Bales of water proof coats.
5 Bags of Tapioca pearls.
5 Bags of Tapioca broken pearls.
5 Bags of Tapioca grist.

By the order of the Insurance Co. concerned:—
2 cases each contg. 30 pcs. of Fancy Art Silk (piece goods), 25/27" or 30/35 yds. (slightly damaged).
5 cases each contg. 100 packets of Carozo buttons.
1 Case of soup-turreens with covers.
1 Case of stew-pans with covers.

By the order of Messrs. Ralli Bros.:—

A big lot of shirtings, nensooks, jaconets, &c.

CRAWFORD & CO.,
Auctioneers.

BENNETT & CO.

120, APOLLO STREET, FORT.

AUCTION SALE OF VALUABLE LANDED PROPERTIES AT PARSI BAZAR STREET (KNOWN AS VICTORIA BUILDING), BAZAR GATE STREET AND LADY JAMSHEDJI ROAD, MAHIM.

Under instructions from the Executors and Trustees appointed under the last will and Testament of the late Mr. Bapuji Cursetji Wachaghandy, Messrs. BENNETT and Company will put up for sale by public auction at the respective premises the following valuable immoveable properties on the days and at the times mentioned here under:—

1. THIS DAY (MONDAY), the 17th January 1927 at 4-30 p.m. (S. T.)

All that piece or parcel of Freehold land or ground with the messuage tenements dwelling house hereditaments and premises built thereon situate, lying and being in Parsi Bazar Street (known as Victoria Building) within the Fort of Bombay, containing by admeasurement 408 sq. yds. or thereabouts bearing New Survey No. 9331 and Cadastral Survey No. 374 Fort Division and assessed by the Assessor and Collector of Municipal Rates and Taxes under A Ward No. 1527 and Street No. 119 and bounded on or towards the East by the public passage on or towards the West by the said Parsi Bazar Street on or towards the North by the property of Graham and Co. and on or towards the South by the property of J. N. Tata.

2. THIS DAY (MONDAY), the 17th January 1927, at 5 p.m. (S. T.)

All that piece or parcel of freehold land or ground with the messuage, tenement, dwelling house hereditaments and premises built thereon situate, lying and being in Bazar Gate Street within the Fort of Bombay, containing by admeasurement 31 sq. yds. or thereabouts bearing New Survey No. 9269 and Cadastral Survey No. 259 Fort Division and assessed by the Assessor and Collector of Municipal Rates and Taxes under A Ward No. 2092 and Street No. 277 and bounded, on or towards the East by the house of Malegamwalla on or towards the West by the said Bazar Gate Street on or towards the South by the property of Jenulabedin Allibhai and on or towards the North by the property of Shaikh Abdul Karim.

For further particulars and Conditions of Sale which will be ready a fortnight before the date of the sale, please apply to Messrs. Edgelow Gulabchand Wadia and Company, attorneys for the Executors and Trustees or to the undersigned.

BENNETT & CO.

AMUSEMENTS

EXCELSIOR THEATRE.

TO-DAY AT 6-30 P. M.
MADAN THEATRES Ltd. PRESENT:—
THE WORLD FAMOUS PIANIST
ALFRED MIROVITCH
and
THE CELEBRATED RUSSIAN VIOLINIST
JOSEF BORISSOFF
In a Select Programme
Change of Programme Every Concert.
Booking at ROSE & Co.

EXCELSIOR THEATRE.

AT 10 P. M. only.
BLACK IS WHITE.
Featuring
DOROTHY DALTON.
A Paramount Arteraft Picture in 6 reels.

EMPIRE THEATRE

6-30, 8-15 and 10 P. M.
THE IDOL OF THE PICTURE WORLD
RUDOLPH VALENTINO
IN
'TheSON OF THE SHEIK.'
with VILMA BANKY.
HERE IS RUDOLPH VALENTINO'S ACE PICTURE.

EDWARD THEATRE

6-30, 8-15 and 10 P. M.
"WINNING THE FUTURITY."
Featuring
CULLEN LANDIS and
CLARA HORTON
A melo drama of Thrills and exciting Action.

EMPRESS THEATRE

6-30, 8-15 and 10 P. M.
"THE ELEVENTH HOUR"
Featuring
CHARLES JONES and SHIRLEY MASON.
A Picture full of Thrills, Dare-Devil Stunts, Adventures and Romance.

GAIETY THEATRE.

6-30, 8-15 and 10 P. M.
BUSTER KEATON
And NATALLIE TALMADGE IN
"OUR HOSPITALITY."
Love, Adventure, Drama, with a hilarious Comedy Kick!

CINEMA MAJESTIC

PRESENTS THIS WEEK

THE VICTIM of The SOCIETY

Also the Special Film
OF
SWAMI SHRADDHANANDJI

THREE SHOWS 5, 7-30 & 10-30.

COMMENCED! COMMENCED!!

SHREE SARASWATI SANGIT VIDYALAYA

The management of the Vidyalaya begs to announce that Prof. Kapileshwari with his party having gone for their tour programme over Burma, Rangoon and Calcutta, the Vidyalaya was closed for about two months. He has now arrived and the classes are regularly commenced from Saturday, 15th instant. It is therefore announced to all the old students to attend their classes in their individual timing. New students will be admitted from the 25th January, 1927. Further particulars in person or by letter.

MANAGER,
Saraswati Sangit Vidyalaya,
Thakurdwar,
Bombay No. 2.

Digitized with financial assistance from the Government of Maharashtra on 11 April, 2017

AMUSEMENTS

Drama that whirls you through the great war to the greatest horse race ever run.
This Play ran for 12 months at Drury Lane to packed houses every night.

"THERE'S A LONG, LONG TRIAL"

The most successful Comedy Cartoon of the year. An Old-time Melody presented with cleverness and humour.
Everyone can sing this old favourite.

PATHE SUPER GAZETTE. TIME :—6-15, 8-15 & 10 p.m.

PATHE CINEMA, ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.

TO-NIGHT 9-30 P. M. TO-NIGHT 9-30 P.M.

SPECIAL ATTRACTION direct from Keith Theatre, New York, AMERICA. From Sat. the 15th Jan. 1927.

KARLEKAR' KARLEKAR' KARLEKAR' GRAND CIRCUS CIRCUS CIRCUS

Location:—Nana's Chowk (opp: Gowalia Tank Fire Brigade)

FIRST APPEARANCE IN INDIA
OF
HOMAZ DUO
AMERICA'S MOST VAUDEVILLE ARTISTS
IN THEIR
MID AIR GYROSCOPIC ACT.

Visit the Supreme show and get the greatest return of your money.
DARE-DEVIL JENKINS.
LEAP FOR LIFE 45 ft. IN THE MID AIR.
Through flames of fire.
MATINEE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 4-30 P. M.

GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.

Bombay, Jan. 15.

3-1/2 per cent Rupee Paper Rs. 77/9.
4 per cent Conversion Loan due 1931-56 Rs. 94/12.
4 per cent Loan due 1960/70 Rs. 88/11.
5 per cent War Loan due 1929/47 Rs. 101/12.
5 per cent Loan due 1935 Rs. 103/6.
5 per cent Loan (Tax Free) due 1933 Rs. 103/8.
5 per cent Loan (Tax Free) due 1945/55 Rs. 107/6.
5 per cent War Bonds (Tax Free) due 1928 Rs. 106/.
6 per cent Bonds (Tax Free) due 192 Rs. 100/13.
6 per cent Bonds (Tax Free) due 1930 Rs. 105/15.
6 per cent Bonds (Tax Free) due 1931 Rs. 107/2.
6 per cent Bonds (Tax Free) due 1932 Rs. 108/6.
6½ per cent Bombay Devp. Loan (Tax Free) due 1935 Rs. 103/4.
4 per cent Port Trust due 1974 Rs. 88/8.
4 per cent Municipal due 1974 Rs. 87/8.
4 per cent Improvement Trust due 1974 Rs. 87/8.
6 per cent Bombay Municipal due 1954 Rs. 113/12/0.
6 per cent Municipal due 1929-49 Rs. 104.
Tone of Market:—Steady. Forward rate for 3 1/2 per cent Rs. 77/11; 1945/55 Rs. 107/1.

LINSEED AND WHEAT MARKETS.

Bombay, Jan. 15.

The Linseed market ruled to-day very steady with an improved enquiry.
The Wheat market continues steady with little selling pressure. The undertone is fairly steady.

Linseed May, Rs. 10-6.
Wheat January, Rs. 10-14.
Wheat May, Rs. 10-9.

The following are the closing rates of Seeds and Wheat to-day:—

Ready Delivery Terms Per Cwt.

Linseed Brown Bold, Rs. 10-5.
Linseed Brown Small, Rs. 9-15.
Castorseed Bold, Rs. 9-12.
Castorseed Small, Rs. 10-14.
Groundnutseeds Bold, Rs. 12.
Groundnuts Madras Khandesh, Rs. 12.
Gingelliseed Bold 85/15, Rs. 15-2.
Gingelliseed Small, Rs. 14-2.
Cottonseeds, Rs. 4-1.
Wheat Pissi Delhi Cawnpore, Rs. 7-13.
Wheat Karachi Bungla, Rs. 7-13.
Wheat Pissi Sooni 70/30, Rs. 7-11-3.

SUGAR MARKET REPORT.

Bombay, Jan. 15.

Ready Prices have improved by about 4 to 6 annas per cwt. in yesterday's closing price-levels. Kanta in the Local Market will remain inactive to-morrow being a Hindu Holiday. Our Forward Market has also ruled steady to-day recording a rise of about 2 to 4d. per cwt. in yesterday's closing price-levels.

The following are the closing Quotations ruling the Bazar to-day:—

Fine White Java Sugar:—
Ready Rs. 18/6 per cwt.
Transhp Rs. 13/6 per cwt. F. B. H.
Shipment December Sh. 20/6 per cwt. F. B. H.
Shipment Jan/Feb/March Sh. 20/4 per cwt. F. B. H.
Shipment July/Aug/Sept. Sh. 18/1 per cwt. F. B. H.
Shipment Octo/Nov/Dec Sh. 18/4 per cwt. F. B. H.
Jamnagar C. I. F. Sugar:—
December/March Sh. 20/7 per cwt. F. B. H.
January/March Sh. 20/6 ptr cwt. F. B. H.
Shipment Jan/Feb/March Sh. 20/6 per cwt. F. B. H.
B. R. B. Beet Sugar:—
Ready Rs. 18/5 per cwt.
Shipment Dec. Sh. 19/7 per cwt. F. B. H.
Shipment Jan/Feb/March Sh. 20/6 per cwt. F. B. H.
Belgian Beet Sugar:—
Nov/Dec/March Sh. 19/- per cwt. F. B. H.
German Crystal Sugar:—
Shipment Nov/Dec Sh. 19/- per cwt. F. B. H.
Tone:—Steady.

COAL MARKET

Bombay, Jan. 15.

The market continues very narrow with a small enquiry buyers have no faith in ruling prices. The quotations given below are more or less nominal.

	Rs.	as.	P.
Bengal first quality	19	8	0
Bengal-Pitsmouth quality	6	0	0
Bengal-Pitsmouth quality	6	0	0
Bengal-Pitsmouth Second quality	4	8	0
C. P. Best	5	8	0
Selected Yule	19	4	0

LONDON RUBBER.

London, Jan. 14.

Smoked Sheet, standard,
Ribbed, Lb. Spot. 1/7-3/4 Buyers
Smoked Sheet, Standard,
Ribbed, Lb. Spot. 1/8- Sellers.
Pale, Crepe, Lb. Spot. 1/7-5/8 Buyers
Pale Crepe, Lb. Spot. 1/7-3/4 Sellers.

STOCK EXCHANGE.

MILL SHARES STEADY.

Bombay, Jan. 15.

The Bombay Stock Exchange opened quiet to-day but later on prices improved on scattered buying in anticipation of some relief to mills will be given by the Tariff Board. Recently some good sales of cloth are reported which was also another reason for improvement.

The Tata Iron Shares opened quiet but steady and early declined on further liquidation but towards the close prices rallied on better enquiry. The closing tone was steady.

Imperial Bank Shares are gradually weakening day by day and some exchange a hands to-day at 1525. but closed steady at 1530, Centrals were easy at 30/8 while India Bank shares ruled at a level of 77/8.

We quote Fazal 862/8, Dyeing 912/8, Century 388/12, Indore Malwa 340 and Nagpur at 511/4.

MONEY MARKET.

EXCHANGE QUOTATIONS.
Bombay, Jan. 15.

R C RATE—
Bank's selling T T 1/5 31/32.
Bank's selling D D 1/6.
LONDON—
Bank's selling T T 1/6 to 1/5 31/32.
Bank's selling D D 1/6.
Bank's buying 3 M/st D A 1/6 9/32.
Bank's buying T T Rs. 1/6 1732.
Bank's buying D D 1/6 1/16.
PARIS—
Bank's selling D D Frcs. 867.
Bank's buying 3 M/st D A Frcs. 952.
Bank's buying D D Frcs. 937.
JAPAN—
Bank's selling T T Rs. -/6 1/32.
Bank's buying 60 D/st D P Rs. 130 1/4.
HONGKONG—
Bank's selling D D Rs. 137 1/2.
SHANGHAI—
Bank's selling D D Rs. 173.
SINGAPORE—
Bank's selling D D Rs. 156.
NEW YORK—
Bank's selling D D Rs. 275.
CROSS RATES—
London—New York Dol. 4.85-3/8.
London—Paris Frcs. 122.15.
London—Switzerland Frcs. 25.15.
London—Brussels Frcs. 34.90.
London—Rome Liras; 111.00.
London—Berlin Marks 20.45.
Tone of Exchange.— Steady dull market.

LONDON DISCOUNTS.

Bombay, Jan. 15.

3 months 4-5/32 per cent.
6 months 4-5/32 per cent.
Money Call 5 1/4 per cent.
1 month 4-3/4 per cent.
3 months 4-3/4 per cent.
6 months 4-3/4 per cent.
Tone of Money market.—Firm.
Imperial Bank of India rate 6 per cent.
Bank of England rate 5 per cent.

LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE.

London, Jan. 14.

Chartered Bank of I.A. & C...	£ 19-3/8
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank (London Register)	£117-1/2
P. & O. Banking Corporation	£ 10-1/2
National Bank..	£ 49-/14
Eastern Bank	£ 6
Funding Loan 4%	£ 87-3/8
Conversion Loan	£ 76
Indian Loan 5 1/2%	£102
Rupee Paper 3 1/2%	£ 57
Indian Stock 39% Sterling Loan	£ 71-5/8
Government Securities 3% ..	£ 60-1/4
Consols	£ 55-1/4
War Loan 5%	£ 101-1/8
Victory Bonds 4%	£ 93-5 8

LEWIS & FONES.

Bombay, Jan. 14.

Messrs. Lewis & Jones, Stock & share Brokers, Bombay, have received the following quotations by special cablegram from London dated 12 inst.

Name	Latest Prices.
Anglo Java (2/-)	0/ 7/ 6
AngloMalay (1)	1/15/ 7½
Bahlias (1)	2/10/ 0
Burma Rubber (1)	1 /7/ 6
Chersonees (2/-)	0/ 3/ 9
Cicely (2/-)	0/ 8/ 9
East Java (1)	2/ 8/ 9
Java Investment (1)	2/ 6/ 10½
Kuala Reman (5/-)	0/ 7/ 0
Kwaloe (2/-)	0/ 3/ 3
Merbad (2/-)	0/ 3/ 9
Mergui Crown (2/-)	0/ 7/ ½
Mooply Valley (1)	1/18/ 9
Pegoh (1)	2/17/ 6
Rim Malacca (2)	0/ 5/ 7½
Sialang (1)	3/ 2/ 6
Tandjong (1)	3/12/ 6
United Serdang (2/-)	0/ 7/ 9
United Temiang (2/-)	0/ 4/ 3
United Patanis (1)	1/10/ 6
Devon Estates (1)	1/ 2/ 6
Highlands & Lowlands (1) ..	2/16/ 3
East Asiatic (2/-)	0/ 4/ 6
Travancore Rubber Co. (1) ..	3/ 6/ 3
Malaccas Rubber Plantations (1)	3/17/ 6

Stock of Rubber in London-50,756 Tons
Increase on week—1,808 Tons.

The budget session of the Burma Legislative Council will commence on 24th January, and it is notified on that date a statement of the estimated expenditure and revenue of the Province for 1927-28 will be presented to the Council.—A. P.

A Lahore message of January 14th says:

NEW YORK COTTON MARKET

MESSRS. A. NORDEN & CO.'S REPORT

Despite a rather indifferent spot demand during the past week, holders, generally, have maintained a firm attitude, largely reflecting the bullish effect of the cold wet weather which is now being experienced throughout the belt and which is interrupting picking and lowering the grade of the cotton which remains open in the fields. That pre-holiday liquidation of spot holdings has not developed is undoubtedly exerting a favorable influence on sentiment and, while there continues to be an absence of speculative support, trade price fixing orders together with covering on the part of recent sellers have sufficed to absorb the small volume of southern hedge selling and to bring about a moderate advance.

In a review of the cotton situation published in "Crops and Markets" the Department of Agriculture gives a concise list of factors which must be considered in forming an opinion as to probable market developments. The Department points out that the factors which may cause an upward tendency in prices are:

(1) The movement to withhold some cotton from the market,

(2) The attractiveness of cotton for investment buying;

(3) The upward trend in world consumption;

(4) Prospects for a reduction in acreage next year.

Factors tending to affect the influence of the above are summarized by the Department as follows:

(1) The relative inelasticity of consumer demand for cotton manufactures;

(2) A record supply of cotton, the full significance of which may not yet be realized;

(3) Hesitancy on the part of the trade to stock up cotton goods while there is a possibility for further declines in the price of the raw material;

(4) Uncertainty as to business activity in general in the United States next year.

AN ABORTIVE ATTEMPt

Briefly commenting on the points raised it may be said that the attempts made by the various cotton finance corporations to organize a holding movement have, so far, proved abortive, principally on account of the unattractiveness of the terms offered. It may be remembered that these corporations were to act as a level for enforcing a drastic reduction of acreage next year but, unless they can secure the co-operation of growers, they can obviously have no power in this direction. That there is a holding movement is unquestioned but, as the large surplus of unmarketed cotton is held by individuals rather than by strong organizations, its inherent weakness is apparent. It is this weakness, together with the doubt that farmers will make an adequate reduction in acreage next Spring, that tends to prevent speculative interests from being impressed by reiterated statements to the effect that present prices are attractive. These statements are based largely on the theory that cotton is now being sold at less than the cost of production; the possibility that the situation can be met by decreasing this somewhat elastic cost rather than by increasing the price of the product—by intensive rather than by extensive production—does not appear to have received consideration. Growing conditions during much of last season were far from ideal, yet the total yield of Int cotton per acre is officially estimated at 187.0 pounds. Is it not reasonable to assume that, with the gradual but marked decrease in boll weevil activity, there will, normally, be still larger yields per acre and resultant reduction in the cost of production?

We are not convinced that the present price of October contracts as conducive to a curtailment of acreage sufficiently severe to ensure an adjustment between supply and demand nor as pointed out in our last letter, is this adjustment to be expected this season as a result of the upward trend of world consumption. Our opinion is that any further advances in the near future are unlikely to be sustained and we should regard them as offering favorable opportunities for making sales.

MILL STORES.

Bombay, Jan. 14.

In the course of the week, the rates ruled practically unchanged. Cotton Healds and Steel Reeds kept firm. Demand has increased owing to firmer quotations from manufacturers of England. Flannels and woolen goods have had no further interesting features, only stray demand was seen. Filets changed hands at practically same rates. Quotations are:—

	Rs.	a.	p.
Healds—15 40S-32 to 56s.	1	1	6
Reeds steel—32 to 56s.	0	2	5
Reeds steel—28s.	0	3	7
Elastic Healds	21	0	0
Cloth Roller—16 oz. Kenion	8	2	0
Cloth Roller—18 oz. Kenion	9	4	0
Flannel Sizing-Plain-66 Kenion	3	8	0
Flannel Sizing-Twill-66 Kenion	3	8	0
Flannel Sizin-Twill-66 Kenion	3	8	0
Flannel Sizing-Plain-72 Kenion	3	12	0
Flannel Sizing-Twill-72 Kenion	3	12	0
Bandings—card-rim—scroll	1	1	0
Bandings—Tubular No. 2s.	1	12	0
Bandings—Tubular No. 3s.	1	8	0
Bandings Spindle 3 ply.	1	2	0
Rope Lambeth-1-1/2 and 1-3/4	1	9	0
Pickers—No. 4—English	55	0	0
Picking Hands hairy	1	12	0
Bobbins—Slubbings—Jan.	24	8	60
Bobbins—Rovings—Jap.	17	8	0
Bobbins—Conical-5" Jap.	6	0	0
Bobbings Ring 96" Jap.	8	8	0
Bobbins—Ring-5" Jap.	6	0	0
Bobbins—Weft-5 3/8" Jna.	6	0	0
Bobbins—Weft-6" Eng./Jap.	6	8	0
Bobbins—Slub. Skwers	11	0	0
Bozzins—Rovings Skwers	9	8	0
Fillets—Emery	0	2	6
Fillets—Cylinder-Doffer	0	8	6

CHEMICALS.

Bombay, Jan. 14.

Chemicals market is firm, Farina and Dextrine gained some strength owing to firmer starting values. Farina was quoted at £19-10-0 per ton C. I. F. Bombay, while Dextrine at £23 per ton C. I. F. Bombay. Sago and other starches have had no further changes. Market is steady.

Quotations:—

	Rs.	a.	p.
Soda Caustic	17	4	0
Soda Sulphide	10	2	0
Soda Hydrosulphide	0	11	9
Soda Bichromate	27	0	0
Salt Aniline	0	8	3
Salt Antimony	0	7	0
Salt Epsom	3	7	0
Salt Glauber	3	14	0
Potah Chlorate	0	3	7
Potash Bichromate	33	0	0
Potash Prussiate Yellow	1	6	0
Chloride Magnesium	4	13	0
Chloride Zinc	17	14	0
Acid Acetic	0	7	0
Acid Oxalic	24	0	0
Sago Flour	12	6	0
Farina	15	0	0
Maize Starch	12	12	0
Dextrine	18	0	0
Liquor Ammonia	0	8	6
Copper Sulphate	19	0	0
Alumina Sulphate	6	6	0
Litharge	33	0	0
Alum of Chrome	13	0	0
Alum of Potash	49	0	0
Sugar lead Brown	35	0	0
Sugar lead White	41	0	0
Bleaching Powder	11	8	0

MADRAS H EALTH WEEK.

MADRAS, Jan. 14.

Before a large and distinguished gathering Viscountess Goschen inaugurated this evening the National Health and Baby Week at the S.I.A.A. grounds.

The Committee has arranged an attractive programme of lectures and demonstrations throughout the week. A Baby Show will be held on Wednesday morning.—A.P.

BENARES HINDU UNIVERSITY.

LIMBDI, Jan. 15

His Highness the Maharajah of Limdi has donated a lakhs of rupee to the Benares Hindu University to build a hostel in memory of his father.—Free Press.

A Coonoor message states, that H. E. the Viceroy will visit the Nilgiris in the first week of June and will spend a week at Ootacamund.—A. P.

CEYLON SHARE QUOTATIONS.

BOMBAY, Jan. 12

Messrs. Forbes and Lund, Stock and Share Brokers have received the following quotations by special telegrams from Colombo, to-day:—

Name of Company	Latest prices Rs.	Face value Rs.	Cost at par, per Acre	Rub. in bearing Acres	Tea in bearing Acres	Dividends per cent. 1925
Bukit Darah Rubber	28	10	683	850		33 10
Cavunal Rub. & Tea	17	10	10	730	315	40 7 1-2
Ceylon Planters	53	10	310	714	93+	85 10
Ceylon Rubber	65	10	314	1400		110 50
Clunes Estates	40	10	455	1048		85
Cochin Rubber	55	15	370	1094		95 10
Eila Tea	350	100	474	1072		60
Estates Co. of Uva	40	10	565	325	2512	30 24
Fairlawn Estate	33/8	15	1094		685	20 8
Frocester Estates	93	10	281	997		120 75
Hatbawe Rubber	18	10	930	861		35
Honiton Rubber	13	10	1344	397		18
Horawala Rubber	85	10	390	768		140 5
Indo-Malay Estates	29	10	612	735		55 20
Jambulande T. & Rub	22	10	730	526		22 1-2 10
Jebong Rubber	26/8	10	738	1626		40 20
Kalutara Company	59	10	412	1212		90 55
Kalutara Rubber	28 8	10	825	547		135x 40
Kelani Valley Rubber	39	10	494	333		75 25
Langat River	45	10	441	1112	925+	52 45
Lanka Rubber	110	10	220	531		135 95
Lansdowne Rubber	245	50	550	817		60 40
Maha Uva Estates	59	10	405		822	35 30
Matale Valley Rubber ..	32	10	670	587		45 10
Meall Mor Estates	29	15	725	418	543	25 10
Mirishena Rubber	65	10	388	912		80 70
Narandoga Rubber	42/8	10	479	365		70
Neuchatel Estates	56	15	720	2423	695	45 20
North-Western Rub.	29	10	413	778	414	30 15
Pelmadulla T. & Rub.	28/8	10	690	822	411	35
Rubber Growers'	50	10	426	634		95 60
Saffragam T. & Rub.	230	50	383	3207	379	75
Talgaswella Tea	57/8	10	232	960	195	100 15
Torrington Tea	19/8	10	1240		501	17 7
Udabage Tea	90	20	439	1330	150	80 40
Udapolla Rubber	32	10	1116	730		200x 60
Ullswater Rubber	19/8	10	445	375		25 10
Vogan Tea	58	10	395	1185	956	75 50

Interims *Interims 1925 + Cocoanuts X On Old Shares.

REMARKS:— Market steady.
Rubber:—Spot Colombo—Re. 11.0 2.

BANDRA'S PAPAL KNIGHT.

(From Our Corespondent.)

BANDRA, Jan. 12.

Despite the inconvenient time of the visit of H. E. the Delegate Apostolic of India, the Catholics of Bandra assembled in large numbers in St. Andrews' and later in St. Peter's to welcome the Ambassador of the Holy Father, the Pope. Returning from a short visit to the "Lourdes" of the East—the Mount Mary's Chapel, the Delegate accompanied by Mgr. Xavier and Mgr. Cercone was received amidst applause by the school children and the people. Dr. Mooney then imparted the Papal Blessing after which a group photo with the school children was taken. On his way to St. Peter's, His Excellency inspected the new building of St. Andrews' High School.

At St. Peter's, the Administrator of the Archdiocese of Bombay, a large number of priests, Sir Dominic Ferreira, Sir Dominic D'Monte and his family and a large congregation awaited his arrival.

SERVICES TO THE HELPLESS.

In a few impressive words, Dr. Mooney congratulated the new Knight Dr. D'Monte, on the great honour conferred by His Holiness and pointed out that the merits for which the distinction had been conferred were not the philanthropic display of charity or any great civic act, but on account of the silent and untrumpeted services to the orphans and especially the helpless lepers at the Trombay Asylum.

Solemn "Te Deum" and Benediction followed by the Papal Blessing terminated the services. The Catholic Anthem put the finale to the unique occasion.

Mr. Joseph Bocarro, in proposing the toast of Sir Dominic D'Monte said that he would not burden his hearers with recounting the numerous works of charity and the activities civc and social in which Sir Dominic was always a prominent person. In replying to the toast, the Knight thanked his guests for honouring him by their presence and with their good wishes.

After partaking of refreshments the guests departed.

END OF HUNGER-STRIKE

CALCUTTA, Jan. 15.

The hunger-strike in Alipore Jail has ended to-day as a result of the interview of Mr. Amerendranath Chatterjee, President of the Congress Karmisangha with the Superintendent and prisoners, three of whom are his relatives. After conversation, he made both parties realise that trouble originated in mutual misunderstanding which was regretted by both the Superintendent and the aggrieved. Thereupon, the young men were removed from the segregation cell to stateyard.—Free Press.

ALL AT HALF PRICES ! !
Original Prices. Rs. 14/- Half Price Rs. 7/-
FOR ONE MONTH ONLY.

22 ct. Rolled Gold Wrist Watches. W guarantee stamps of TEN YEARS. Supplied with fine Silk Strap.
SALE RICE Rs. 7/- ONLY.
Write to:— ENGLISH EMPORIUM
P. B. 105, MADRAS.

NEW YORK & LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKETS.

NEW YORK COTTON.

K. Singh 16-1 27.

New York, Jan. 15.

March	13.36+.06
May	13.57+.07
July	13.78+.07
October	13.98+.04
December	14.13+.04
Middling Spot	13.55+.05

NEW YORK COTTON DAILY STATISTICS.

New York, Jan. 15.

Day's receipts at all U. S. Ports	Bales. 39,000
Day's exports to Great Britain	nil
Day's exports to the Continent	39,000

NEW ORLEANS COTTON.

New York, Jan. 15.

March	13.33+.06
July	13.67+.07
Middling Spot	13.30+.05

NEW YORK.

New York 10 55 A M

(As known in Liverpool at closing time)

January	13.12
March	13.25
May	13.45
New York, Noon Call	
January	13.14
March	13.26
May	13.46
New Orleans 9-55 A. M.	
March	13.24
July	13.57

LIVERPOOL COTTON.

Liverpool, Jan. 15.

January	7.08+.10
February	7.08+.10
March	7.15+.09
April	7.18+.08
May	7.25+.09
June	27. 9+.09
July	7.35+.09
August	7.37+.09
September	7.39+.09
October	7.40+.09
November	7.42+.09
December	7.44+.09
January	7.45+.10
Middling Spot	7.27+.11

EGYPTIAN COTTON.

Liverpool, Jan. 15.

January	13.15+.15
February	13.16+.17
March	13.00+.18
April	12.96+.19
May	12.92+.19
June	12.88+.21
July	12.83+21.
August	12.85+.21
September	12.90+.21
October	12.93+.21
November	12.85+.23
December	12.92+.23
January	12.80+.23
Sakellaridis, F. G. F., Spot	13.85+.20

LIVERPOOL COTTON.

Liverpool, Jan. 15.

	Bales.
Sales at Liverpool	7,000
Sales on Speculation	500
Sales of East Indian Cotton	Nil

INDIAN COTTON.

Liverpool, Jan. 15.

Scinde, Good	5.35+.10
Scinde, Fully Good	5.55+.10
Scinde Fine	5.75+.10
Bengal, Good	5.45+.10
Bengal Fully Good	5.65+.10
Bengal Fine	5.85+.10
Oomra, Good	6.00+.10
Oomra Fully Good	6.25+.10
Oomra, Fine	6.50+.10
Broach, Good	5.95+.10
Broach Fully Good	6.25+.10
Broach Fine	6.55+.10

LONDON PRODUCE

London, Jan. 15.

Cottonseed, Bombay, £8: 0: 0 January February Shipment Offered.

Castorseed, Bombay, £19: 10: 0 January February Shipment Offered.

Rapessed, Toria, ton, £18: 5: 0 January February Shipment Offered.

Rapeseed, Toria, ton. £18: 0: 0 February March Shipment Offered.

Rapeseed, Toria, ton, £17: 17: 6 February June Shipment Offered.

Rapeseed, Ferozepore, Real Bold ton. £17: 17: 6 Shipment Offered.

WHEAT—LONDON MARKET.

London, Jan. 15.

Barletta Russo, per 64 lb. 49/6 January February Shipment Value.

Rosario Santa Fe., per 63½ lb. 50/- January February Shipment Value.

Market: Dull, Prices easier due chiefly to Wheat, Australian. 53/- January February larger world's shipments.

ruary Shipment Sellers.

Market: Dull.

Wheat, Choice White Karachi, 49/9 May June Shipment Value.

JAVA SUGAR—LONDON MARKET.

London, Jan. 15.

Java Sugar, Fine White, Dutch Standard No. 25, C. and F. Calcutta.

Jan.-Mar. per cwt. 20-6 Offered.

July.-Sept. per cow. 18-3.

Oct.-Dec. per cwt. 18-4-1/2.

July.-Sept. per cent. 18-3.

Oct.-Dec. per cent. 18-4-1/2.

Java Sugar, Fine White, Dutch Standard No. 25, C. and F. Bombay.

Java Sugar, Fine White, Dutch Standard July.-Sept. per cwt. 18/5-1/2.

No. 25, C. and F. Karachi.

July.-Sept, per cwt. 18/6-1/4.

QUOTATIONS OF LOCAL MILL CLOTHS

(Issued by the Hindustani Native Merchants' Association).
Kalbadevi Road, Bombay

Jan. 16

		Rs. a. p.
KHADI:—	Per lb	
Textile	,,	0 10 6
Century	,,	0 10 3
Jacob	,,	0 10 3
E. D. Sassoon	,,	0 10 0
Elphinstone	,,	0 10 0
Apollo	,,	0 10 0
LONG CLOTH (Full weight)	34/40 In:	
Standard Mill	Per lb.	0 14 0
Century 91 1/2-92 1/2	,,	0 13 6
Century 6404-8705	,,	0 14 0
Hindustan Mill	,,	0 14 0
Fazal (Mahal)	,,	0 14 0
Phoenix	,,	0 13 9
Pabaney (Phoolmala)	,,	0 13 6
Manekji (Patangia)	,,	0 13 9
Kalamardan	,,	0 13 9
Daud Sahib	,,	0 12 9
LONG CLOTH (Light weight)	No. 5202/5303	
Rachael Mill	Per lb.	0 14 0
Hindustan Mill	,,	0 14 0
David Mill	,,	0 14 3
Apollo	,,	0 14 0
LONG CLOTH x Quality:—		
Swan Finlay	,,	0 13 6
Gold Mohor	,,	0 13 0
LONG CLOTH Satin Calender	34-42 In:—	
Textile (Hand)	per lb.	0 13 0
Spring (Merchant)	,,	0 13 0
Century (Bugle)	,,	0 12 6
Apollo (Pyala)	,,	0 12 9
Tata Mill (Darji)	,,	0 12 9
Sakuntala	,,	0 12 9
Sundari Brand	,,	0 12 6
Globe	,,	0 12 3
Rachael	,,	0 12 6
Pilkhi	,,	0 13 0
Maher	,,	0 13 0
LEPAD:—		
Spring	,,	0 13 0
Textile	,,	0 13 0
Century	,,	0 13 0
Maher	,,	0 13 0
DHOOTIES 7, 8, 9 Yards:—		
Spring (Balance)	Per lb.	1 0 0
Jacob	,,	0 14 6
Century	,,	0 15 0
Mun Mill	,,	0 15 0
DHOOTIES 10 Yards:—		
Spring (Balance)	,,	0 15 0
Century	,,	0 14 0
Jacob	,,	0 13 6
Mun Mill	,,	0 14 0
1386 Tata	,,	2 11 0
CHECK GREY DRILL x lbs. 5:—		
Bombay Cotton	Per piece	3 12 0
Jamshed	,,	3 12 0
Century	,,	3 12 0
Pearl Pabaney	,,	3 15 0
Hindustan No. 903	,,	4 2 3
BLACK CHECK:—		
5800 Sholapur	,,	10 8 0
2020 Jacob	,,	5 8 0
58000 Kurla	,,	8 7 0
1325 Morarji	,,	5 7 0
GABRUN No. 5124:—		
Pearl Pebaney	,,	7 5 0
Hindustan	,,	7 5 0
E. D. Rachael	,,	6 2 0
SALITA:—		
Century	Per lb.	0 13 0
Textile	,,	0 13 0
Spring (Merchant)	,,	0 13 6
STRIPPED SADIS Yards 12:—		
777 Kohinoor	Per piece	2 3 0
777 Crescent	,,	2 1 0
Apollo David	,,	2 1 0
DUKDI Yards 12-13-14:—		
Kanta	Per lb.	1 0 9
Great	,,	1 0 0
Phoenix		1 1 0
Kohinoor	,,	1 1 3
Tata	,,	1 1 0
CHADAR Kori Calander:—		
Hindustan	Per lb.	0 14 6
David	,,	0 14 0
Mahel		0 14 0

LINSEED.

London, Jan. 15.

Linseed, La Plata, C. I. F., ton, £14: 12. January February Shipment Offered.

Market: Quiet.

Linseed, Bombay Unquoted. u2

LINSEED OIL.

Linseed Oil, naked, London, cwt., 30/3 February April Delivery, Sellers.

Linseed Oil, naked, London, cwt., 30/1½ May August delivery paid and Buyers.

LONDON SILVER.

London, Jan. 15.

Silver:—China and India sold. Market closed steady.

Spot	25-1/2
Forward	25-5/16

LONDON GOLD.

London, Jan. 15.

Bar Gold, Fine, per oz.	£4: 4: 11-1/2
Interest, day to day Loans	3 p.c.
Interest, 7 Days' Market Loans	4 p.c.

LONDON EXCHANGES.

London, Jan. 15.

T.T. Berlin on London	20 44 3/4
T. T. Amsterdam on London	12.13-2/4
T.T. Brussels on London	24.91
T. T Madrid on London	30.30
T. T. Milan on London	111.49
T. T. Berne on London	25.18
T. T. Paris on London	122.10

LONDON DISCOUNT.

London, Jan. 15.

Bank Bills, 3 months	4-1/8 p.c.
Bank Bills, 6 months	4-1/8 p.c.
Fine Trade Bills, 3 months	5-1/4 p.c.
Fine Trade Bills, 6 months	5-3/4 p.c.

LONDON DISCOUNT RATES.

London Jan. 14.

Interest, Day to day Loans ..	3-3/ 8%
Interest 7 days' Market Loans	4%
Bank Bills, 3 months ..	4-5/32%
Bank bills 6 months ..	4-5/32%
Fine Trade Bills, 3 months ..	5-1/ 4%
Fine trade bills, 6 months ..	5-3/ 4%

BOMBAY COTTON MARKET.

'RICANS.—N. Y. Opened Higher on Better Liverpool Cables. Long Liquidation at the Advance. Later fresh Trade and Speculative Support. Closed 8 to 13 Higher Spot Cotton 13.50c.

LOCAL.—Improved early. General buying-closed quiet but steady.

Private Cables:—

Messrs. Patel Bros. have received the following cable from New York:—

May Highest 13,52 at about the closing, Lowest 13.35 (2-12 p.m.).

Messrs. Umrigar and Vesugar's New York friends Messrs. A. Norden and Co., cable under date 14th instant as under:—

Market advanced on trade buying in excess of offerings.

AMERICANS.

Bombay, Jan. 15.

Yesterday the New York futures market opened 7 points higher on better enquiry for spot cotton and better Liverpool cables. At the advance there was further long liquidation which caused a set back in the prices till May position was quoted 13.35. However during the last hour, fresh support given by Bull operators, resulted in a sharp rise and by the close, futures showed a rise of 8 to 13 points. Spot cotton continues in good demand, prices of which improved 10 points and closed at 13.50c.

The New Orleans futures market ruled steady. Spot quotations were raised by 10 points at 13.25c.

The Liverpool cotton market yesterday opened 9 points lower, but prices gradually improved and closed 3 to 4 points lower. Excellent demand for spot cotton was the special feature of the day; sales being 14,000 bales and prices closed at a decline of 3 points at 7-16d. per lb.

The undertone of the market continues very steady mainly influenced by good trade demand and little hedge selling. Some weak holders have liquidated their purchases with a view to re-buy on further low level. It remains to be seen whether the price will record a low level immediately in the face of healthy demand for spot cotton. Under such conditions we would not think it safe to increase long interest at present even though we believe in higher prices eventually. It is possible that the market may fluctuate for some time within a narrow range around this level, and would recommend to buy on moderate declines.

LOCAL.

Following improvement of 10 to 13 points in New York futures, our market to-day opened very steady for Broach April|May being quoted at Rs. 260-8. There was absence of sellers and buyers were cautious. There was some scattered buying which hardened prices. There was very good demand for January, Oomra which showed good strength for the market. The closing prices in the Marwari Bazar were quoted as under:—

	Op.	Hi.	Lo.	Cl.
Broach A.|M.	260|8	262	260|8	261|8
Broach J.|A.	264|8	266	264|8	260
Oomra D.J.	250|8	251|8	250|8	251
Oomra Mar.	248	248|4	248	248|4
Oomra May	248|8	249|8	248|8	249|4
Bengal D.|J.	225|8	227	225|8	227
Bengal March	220	221|8	220	221|8

SEWRI MARKET.

Liverpool market opened 5 points higher. Our market at Sewri opened firm on Japanese buying and Broach April|May was quoted nearly Rs. 262-12. Some of the commission houses were sellers which caused a slight set back before the close. The closing tone was fairly steady. If the market improves further here we think it safe to secure profits, and re-buy at low levels.

	Op.	Hi.	Lo.	Cl.
Broach A.|M.	262|4	262|12	262	262
Broach J.|A.	266|8	267	266|8	267
Oomra D.|J.	251	251|8	251	251
Oomra March	248|8	249	248|8	249
Oomra May	249|8	250 8	249|8	250|8
Bengal D.|J.	227	227|8	227	227|8
Bengal March	221|8	222	221|8	222

BREUL & CO.'S MARKET REPORT.

RECEIPTS INTO BOMBAY.

Bombay, Jan. 15,

In full-pressed Bales.	Yesterday	Since 1st September This Year	Last Year
Khandesh	7,144	1,71,908	1,65,859
Central India ..	4,056	86,929	1,54,728
Barsi and Nagar ..	3287	81,886	89,126
Hyderabad-Gaorani	732	25,608	30,286
Berar	4,781	2,07,004	77,995
Central Provinces ..	4,764	67,186	90,503
Total Oomras	24,764	6,39,521	7,08,503
Dholera	1,870	19,837	88,146
N.W. Provinces	793	42,966	1,15,775
Rajputana	473	13,320	42,347
Sind-Punjab ..	773	43 920	4,00,196
Broach		239	3,979
Coompta & Dharwar	513	9,648	12,678
Westerns-Northerns	123	8,746	7,141
Cocoanada	..	395	1,473
Tinnevelly and Cambodia		4,594	6,441
Persian	..	2,849	1,879
American		59,343	143
Egyptian and African		20,166	29,179
Comilla, Burma & other sorts.		44	352
Total	29,309	8,75,588	11,18,229

EXPORTS FROM BOMBAY

1st. Sept. to 6th. Jan.

In full-pressed Bales	Yesterday	This year	Last year
Europe	2,481	82,448	1,56,200
Japan & China ..	20,700	2,37,913	3,52,459
Coast Ports ..		4,702	8,666
Up-country by Rail.		38,678	4,136
Afloat in harbour for Europe, China and Japan		31,514	66,496
Total	23,181	3,95,255	5,87,957

PRODUCE RECEIPTS.

Bombay, Jan. 15.

Receipts of various produce into Bombay up to noon the 14th instant.

Wheat, 6,822 Cwt.
Linseed, 3,140 Cwt.
Rape, Rai and Mustardseeds, 142 Cwts.
Gingellyseeds, 1,290 Cwt.
Poppyseed, 399 Cwts.
Groundnuts, 12,780 Cwts.
Castorseed, 4,825 Cwt.
Rice, 4,825 Cwt.
Myrabollams, 2,786 Cwt.
Cottonseed, 7,712 Cwt.
Gram, 1,104 Cwt.
Joowar, 443 Cwt.
Barley, 115 Cwt.
Bajree, 4,950 Cwt.
Coal, 2,950 tons.

DEMAND BILLS.

New York, Jan. 14.

Demand Bills	485.00

COFFEE.

New York, Jan. 14.

air Rio Coffee, (No. 7, quality,) FSpot.	15-7/6

READY COTTON QUOTATIONS.

BOMBAY, Jan. 15.

Delivery Contracts Ready. Jan Mill Terms. New

Bengal	Superfine	M. G.		
,,	Fine	,,	238/40	+7
,,	F.G.	,,	232/35	
Sindh-Punjab	Fine	,,	337/39	
,,	F.G.	,,	230/32	
Wardha-Hingt.	Fine	M.G.	270	
Nagpur		,,	268/70	+21/2
Yeotmal	,,	,,	255/57	
Arvi	,,	,,	262/64	
Amraoti	,,	,,	258/60	
Khamgaon-Akola	,,	,,	255/57	+4
Mulkapur	,,	,,	242/45	
Khandesh	,,	,,	237/40	8-9
Muthia	Fine	,,	232/35	-13
,,	F.G.	,,	....	17-8
		Old.	Feb.	Mar.
Broach	Fine		240/45	+14 +10
Coompta		M. G.	260/65	
Westerns	Good.	,,	215	
Cambodia	Fine	,,	275/85	
Kalagin	,,	,,	200	

Delivery contract quotations are based on the Dec. 1 Jan. Hedge contract prices.

READY COTTON SALES.

Bombay, Jan. 15.

400	Ramdas Khimjee, Runala	241
100	Toyomankwa, Shindhurni	243
100	Toyomankwa, Ellichpur	260-1/2
100	Y. Y. Kesha, Blawar	248
100	K. Damjee & Co., Puchora	242
300	Suzuki & Co., Khamgaon	258
200	Suzuki & Co., Amdrasti	258
200	Suzuki & Co., Pandurna	272
200	Mitha Dhulia	245
200	Birla Bros., Amraoti	259
200	H. Rambhagat, Nagar	248
200	H. Rambhagat, Bhavnagar	240
200	H. Rambhagat, Berar	258
200	H. Rambhagat, Khandeesh	241
200	Currumbhai, Nanded	292

Rohm Rate closed.

SILVER MARKET.

Bombay, Jan. 15.

In spite of better London quotations, our market to-day ruled quiet. After opening steady prices gave way on Bank selling. The China cables were also unfavourable which caused local operators to liquidate their Holdings and prices closed as under:—

Spot Silver, Rs. 58.

Posh delivery, Rs. 57-15.

Mah delivery, Rs. 57-15.

Fagun delivery, Rs. 57-10.

Tone of London.—Market closed weak. Market rose to-day on account of China buying. Do not think rise will be maintained unless China continues buying.

GOLD MARKET.

Bombay, Jan. 15.

The Gold market continues quiet but steady.

Bar Gold Spot, Rs. 21-7-3
Posh delivery, Rs. 21-7.
Mah delivery, Rs. 21-7-6.
Fagun delivery, Rs. 21-8.
Sovereigns ready, Rs. 13-7-6.
Sovereigns Forward, Rs. 13-7-3.
National Bank, Rs. 21-10.

CALCUTTA STOCK EXCHANGE.

(Through C. M. PAREKH.)

Bombay Jan. 14

JUTE.

Albion ..	535	Howrah ..	46/14
Alliance ..	603	India ..	
Alexandra ..	360	Kamarhatty	714
Anglo-India	415	Kankanarrah	570
Auckland ..	298	Kelvin ..	900
Barnagore ..	224	Khardha ..	500
Bally ..	246	Kinnison	1040
Birla ..	11/12	Lansdowne	317
Belvedere ..	538	Lawrence ..	645
Budge-Budge	540	Lothian ..	498
Caledonian ..	620	Naihati ..	512
Chapdani ..	189	National ..	34/4
Clive ..	40/2	New Central	660
Craig ..	5/8	Northbrook	59
Cheviot ..	322	Nudea ..	48
Dalhousie ..	477	Orient ..	273
Delta ..	615	Presidency ..	9/4
Empire ..	58/8	Reliance ..	79
Fort Gloster ..	990	Soorah ..	33
Fort William	391	Standard ..	490
Gondalpara	1100	Union ..	630
Gourepore ..	775	Waverly ..	7
Hukumchand	14/2	HESSIAN ..	14/13
Hooghly ..	86/8	JUTE ..	67/8

COTTON

Agra United	-/12	Dunbar	175
Bowaria ..		Keshavram Cotton	3/14
Bengal Nagpur	23/8	New Ring	
		COAL	
Burrakur ..	19	Kurdi ..	
Bokaro Ramgur	15/12	Neetooria	
Gusick and ..		New Kendah	
Musalia ..		Ranegunge	31/14
Katras Jherriah		Samla Kendra	
MISCELLANEOUS			
B.B. Petrol'm.	6/12	1 Standard	
B.I. Corporn	4/10	Wagon	28
B.I. „ D		Marshalls ..	
Burma Corp	10/4	Madon Theatres	5
C.P. Cement		Scindia Steam	
Howra Oil		Titagar Paper	
Hume Pipe		Thorney Croft.	
I.I. Still ..	10	Imperial Bank	1548
		„ Conty.	389

Remarks.—Jute shares firm. Cottons were easier. Coals remained unchanged. Government Securities were quiet. 32 per cent Government Paper 77/9; 5½ per cent Bonds (1945-55) 107/6. 4 per cent New Loan (1960-70 88/8; 6 per cent Bonds (1927) 100/14.

IMPERIAL BANK OF INDIA.

STATEMENT OF AFFAIRS AS ON THE 7th INST.

LIABILITIES.

Subscribed Capital	...	11,25 00 000
Capital Paid up	...	5,62 50 000
Reserve	...	4,92 50 000
Public Deposits	...	4,70 85 000
Other Deposits	...	71,74 75 000
Loans against securities per contra	...	
Loans from the Government of India under Section 20 of the Paper Currency Act against Inland bills discounted and purchased per contra	...	
Contingent Liabilities	...	
Sundries	...	1,36 58 000
	Rs.	88,36 58 000

The above balance sheet includes—

Deposits in London	...	£909,800
Advances in London	...	£915,800
Cash and balances at other Banks in London	...	£97,300

Percentage 24,31

Bank Rate 5 p. c. raised to 6 p. c.

ASSETS.

Government Securities	...	17,42 63 000
Other authorized securities under the Act	...	1,80 60 000
Loans	...	14,68 80 000
Cash Credits	...	25,15 58 000
Inland bills discounted and purchased	...	6,31 87 000
Foreign bills discounted and purchased	...	26 32 000
Bullion	...	
Dead Stock	...	2,75 42 000
Liability of constituents for contingent liabilities per contra		
Sundries	...	88 56 000
Balances with other Banks.		15 02 000
		69,44 85 000
Cash	...	18,91 73 000
	Rs. ...	88,36 58 000

BURMA CORPORATION LIMITED.

Bawdwin Mine.—During the month of December 30,390 tons of Ore were mined, including 1,861 tons of High Grade Ore.

24,300 tons of ore were mined in the Treatment Plant, producing 8,504 tons of Leady Concentrates. 11,621 tons of Lead bearing material, including 1,776 tons of High Grade Ore, were smelted in the Blast Furnaces, producing 5,511 tons Hard Lead for treatment in the Refinery.

Refinery products were.—4,700 tons Refined Lead, 4,07,500 ounces Refined Silver. Of Silver production, 50,959 ounces were recoverd from the treatment of Copper Matte. Experimental Zinc Plant produced 3,900 tons Zinc Concentrates, assaying 12.6 ozs. of Silver; 6 per cent Lead; 46.9 per cent Zinc.

In addition to the above 910 tons Copper Matte were produced from the treatment of accumulated smelter bye-products and 4,000 tons Copper Ore. 50 tons of Antimonial Lead were also produced. Included in the tonnage of Refined Lead is 220 tons recovered from the smelting of Copper Ore.

LONDON METALS

London, Jan. 14.

Copper, English best selected,	£61-1/4
Copper Braziers, ...	£ 70-3/4
Yellow Metal, ...	£ 66-1/2
Spelter, Hard Indian Brands,	£ 28
Corrugated sheets, 24 gauge,	£ 16-1/8
Tin, English Ingots, ...	£298-1/4

GENT'S OXFORD WELTED SHOES:—

	Rs, as.
BROWN WILLOW HIDE Crepe Sole	11—15
BROWN WILLOW HIDE Leather Sole	9—15
BROWN WILLOW CALF Leather Sole	11—15
BLACK BOX CALF Leather Sole	10—15
WHITE CANVAS Leather Sole, RubberHeel	4— 8

Available from Bata Stockists:—

BOMBAY .. 257, Hornby Rd. Carnac Road, & Lohar Street.
BANGALORE .. 154, Commercial St.
SURAT .. Kanpith Bazar
POONA .. East Street.
CALCUTTA .. New Market. Lindsay Street.
KARACHI .. Elphinstone Street
DELHI .. Chandni Chowk.
PESHAWAR .. Arbad Road.
MHOW .. Simrol Road.
AJMER .. Madar Gate.
AHMEDABAD Three Gates.
BELGAUM .. High Street.
MADRAS .. Moor Market.
SECUNDERABAD .. Oxford Street.
INDORE .. Main Road.
JUBBULPORE East Street.
LAHORE .. Anarkali and Mall Road.
RAWALPINDI Dalhousie Road.

Sole Agents:—

DAWAR H. KAZI & Co.

Post Box 106, BOMBAY.

GUNNY MARKET REPORT.

Bombay, Jan. 15.

Messrs. J. Thomas and Co. have issued the following weekly Report under date Calcutta 12th January.

Heavy Goods.—The market has continued very steady with a fair demand for all positions considerable interest being shown for cornsacks for July/December. After a small decline rates firmed up and are fully steady at the close.

For the Up-country Markets and Bombay.—D. W. Flour Bags for January at Rs. 60-0-0; B. Twills for January at Rs. 49-4-0 to Rs. 48-8-0, for January/March at Rs. 48-4-0 to Rs. 48-8-0, for February/March at Rs. 49-4-0 to Rs. 48-8-0; for April/June at Rs. 47-8-0; Liverpool Twills for January/March at Rs. 55-0-0 to Rs 54-8-0, for April/June at Rs. 55-8-0 to Rs. 55-0-0.

Hessians.—Early in the interval a fair business was transacted at advancing rates for both the near and forward positions. At the week-end bazaar operators showed some inclination to realise profits and prices eased, but towards the close a better felling is again in evidence.

9 Porters for Ready at Rs. 14-14-0 to Rs. 15-0-0 to Rs. 14-11-0 to Rs. 14-13-0, for January at Rs. 14-14-0 to Rs. 14-15-0 to Rs. 14-11-0 to Rs. 14-13-0, for January/March at Rs. 14-14-0 to Rs. 14-15-0 to Rs. 14-11-0 to Rs. 14-13-0, for April/June at Rs. 15-0-0 to Rs. 14-12-0 to Rs. 14-14-0, for April/September at Rs. 15-0-0, for July/September at Rs. 15-0-0, for July/December at Rs. 14-14-0, for October/December at Rs. 14-8-0 to Rs. 15-0-0.

Hessian Bags 54"X27" hd. ex. 40"—8 ozs. for April/September at Rs. 32-0-0.

11 Porters for Ready at Rs. 19-13-0 to Rs. 1-9-0, for January at Rs. 19-8-0 to Rs. 19-12-0 to Rs. 19-8-0, for early February at Rs. 19-8-0, for February/March at Rs. 19-4-0 to Rs. 19-6-0 to Rs. 19-1-0, for April/June at Rs. 19-4-0 to Rs. 19-8-0 to Rs. 18-12-0 to Rs. 19-0-0, for July/September at Rs. 19-4-0 to Rs. 19-8-0 to Rs. 18-14-0 to Rs. 19-0-0, for July/December and October December at Rs. 19-0-0.

Hessian Bags for February at Rs. 22-4-0, for March at Rs. 21-12-0.

RAINFALL IN MADRAS.

SIMLA, Jan. 15.

Local rain is reported from South Madras and a few falls from Assam.

Chief amounts are: Dibrugarh and Tinnevelly one inch each.

The western disturbance is feeble, its northern portion has passed away from Kashmir while its southern portion has moved to Central India. The temperature is rising slowly to normal in Northern India and is high in the Deccan.

Forecast:—Extension into Chota Nagpur.

A. P.

SEE WHAT THE USERS SAY

MEDICAL OFFICERS.

14|3, Upper Circular Road,
Calcutta, 27th Dec. 1919.

Gentlemen,

Myself and my respected father Dr. Khetter Mohan Mukerjee are both well satisfied with the wonderful effects that your Saraswati Kavacha possesses. As to ourselves we are much pleased and thank you very much.

Yours faithfully,
(Sd.) H. MUKERJEE, F.S.C., F.S.A., F.R.S.A., M.R.A.S., (London), Hon. Rep. to the North British Academy, of Science, Arts, etc., Ld., England, in India.

CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER.

Kumod Nath Mukerjee, Esq., L.M.S., P.C.P.S., Patna Feudatory State, Bolangir P.O., Dist. Sambalpur, B.N. Ry., writes:—I wore your Kavacha by the middle of April last and it seemed to take effect by the 4th June, 1918, from which date I was appointed a Chief Medical Officer of Patna State.

Gentlemen,

I beg to inform you that I have been using your renowned and the gifted Talisman for the past 4 years and I am thankful to the Almighty God for his bestowing on me his grace and the blessings of a genuine form to me and the members of my family. Please send me 2 more.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) T. V. MAHADEVA AYYAR,
Sub-Assistant Surgeon,
L. F. Hospital, Sattur.

PREMATURE DEATH. INFLUENZA AND SMALL-POX.

1673, S. S. Nigam, Esq., Industrial Chemists' Office, Cawnpore, writes:—I was dangerously laid up with Influenza and Small-pox which detained me quite senseless to my bed for full three months. My fever ran up to 106 deg. My good fortune had afforded me some protective means during my severe illness. Luckily I got your Talisman. Two times my eye-balls were turned off. I was supposed to have breathed my last. Indeed I narrowly escaped death; but I must confess that your Talisman has been 'instrumental in saving my life.' Please accept a thousand thanks as through your wonderful invention I am again up this day on my chair to write a few lines to you. You may use these lines whereever you wish to have their use.

ECZEMA.

609.—A. R. Damodaram, Esq., Overseer, 52, Pulyr Koil St., Shoolay, Bangalore, writes:—Your Talisman has given a radical cure to my baby which was suffering from eczema since one year and I will strongly recommend the same to my friends.

DIARRHOEA.

Sesha Vilas, 83, Bazaar Road,
Saidapet, Madras, 24—12—19.

Messrs. G. D. Joshi and Co., Delhi.

Dear Sirs,

I have received your Talisman. It has done immense good in curing the Diarrhoea which my grandson aged one year has been long suffering from. I may presume to say it has got its virtue.

Yours faithfully,
(Sd.) M. MUNUSAMY PILLAI,
Late Cashier,
Messrs. Oakes & Co., Ltd., Cigar Factory.

REWARD 500 RUPEES

THE WORLD RENOWNED **TALISMAN** OR THE GREAT

SARASWATI KAVACHA (Reg.)

Impossible Made Possible. *The only Genuine Jantra.*

In praise of the great Hindu Talisman (Saraswati Kavacha) we quote the following shloka from the sacred Shastras, which declares in glowing terms its immeasurable, wonderful and magic effects.

'Sarvagraha Prasamani Nishesa
Bishanashini Jayam Sarbatra Kurute
Dhanada Sumatiprada.''

The Saraswati Kavacha destroys every sort of danger and difficulties to which human beings are liable to fall in through the influence of bad stars. Poisons have no effect on the wearer. If bestows victory at all times. And is the great giver of health, wealth happiness, and good graces.

This Kavacha is incomparable. It has no equal in the whole world. Its wonderful effects cannot be adequately described in words. Please use one and you will learn what it is and how it acts.

By using the Talisman one will be free from all diseases and will be blessed with success in everything and in every act. It increases the beauty, lustre, glow and charmingness of the body hundredfold both of men and women boys and girls. It bestows perpetual youth, endowing all with immense health and vigour. It prevents untimely death and early decrepitude. It is the greatest charm against all spirits, ghosts, constellation, etc. It is the sole bestower of all success and victory. A man is sure to get rich within the shortest possible tiee, whether he is engaged in service, commerce, trade, arts, etc., if he prefers to wear one of the wonderful Talismans. It is sure to make him happy and blessed by surrounding him with a merry group of children and a beautiful and faithful wife.

This amulet prevents all poisons, whether due to infectious disease, bad water and atmosphere or any other causes, from entering into the body. If it any poison by some means or other enters the body—, by its use, it will soon be driven out with excreta and urine. Therefore during all epidemics of Plague, Cholera, Influenza, or Small-pox it is THE PROTECTOR. In all malarious places if this great Talisman is used, one is sure to be free from any illness whatever. In short by the use of this wonderful Talisman one will always be blessed with 'sound and perfect health and a long and happy life.'

Therefore in all the infected areas, every man and woman, boys and girls, both young and old, should not lose a day but at once use this great Talisman. As a lightning conductor saves all buildings, churches, temples and big places from the thunder, so does this Kavacha save a man or a woman from all evil effects, due to diseases or circumstances.

By its use one is sure to get success in Horse Races, in Litigations, Examinations, and in all other things. It will secure a handsome, beautiful and auspicious wife. By its use one will be able to be the favourite of each and everyone.

FOR WOMEN.

This Saraswati Kavacha is the greatest Heavenly blessing if it is worn with two small pieces of "Provala" (Red CORALS price Re. 1 per pair). Women are sure to be very lucky. By its use all women will be auspicious, sweet voiced and sweet tempered and will be blessed with handsome children if they are sterile and sickly; in fact they will be the glory of all household, making all happy, healthy and wealthy.

It is at the same time cheap. But it is not really very cheap if only one is to be prepared. It is to be brought from a place hundreds of miles away, its preparation and making costs much money; but as we have secured a very large number, we can afford to distribute them each at a nominal cost, namely:—

ONE RUPEE AND FOUR ANNAS ONLY.

It can easily be worn with a fine thread, a tape or silk cord, silver or gold chain, or anything similar round the waist, neck or arm. This must be done with great veneration and faith. Ladies should wear it with two red corals to be put on two sides of the amulet.

The important thing is: it should always be kept attached to the body, however that might be done, that is all

SPEIAL NOTICE:—We have quoted a Sanskrit shloka at the top of this advertisement. It is not composed by us but quoted from the holy Shastras. If any one proves that this shloka is not quoted from the holy "Shastras" but is a bogus verse, we are prepared to present him at once rupees five hundred as reward.

GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, RAJAS AND ZEMINDARS.

2407:—Devendra Narain Sinha, Esq., Zamindar, Sinha Lodge, Darbhanga, writes:—I found the Talisman effective in my case.

992:—Bunkim Chandra Deb, Esq., Midnapur, Ballavpur (Bengal), writes:—I have used your Talisman for three months and it has given me much benefit. Please send me one more by V.P. Post and oblige.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

9065.—T. Srinivasachari, Esq., Head Clerk, Health Department, Corporation of Madras, writes:—It is with immense pleasure I testify to the wonderful effects of the Talisman "Saraswati Kavacha." It has produced good results also to those whom I gave to. Please send me 4 more.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT. DY. INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS.

1623.—Uma Shankar Saksena, Ess., B.A., Deputy Inspector of Schools, Bareilly, writes,—I am glad to inform you that your Saraswati Kavacha has done immense good to me. Thanks to the Almighty God that by virtue of your Talisman I got the post for which I was a candidate when I had ordered the Talisman.

FULL DIRECTIONS FOR USE ACCOMPANY EACH TALISMAN.

PRICES IN INDIA:—

WHOLESALE PRICES :—3 for Rs. 3-12 ; 6 for Rs. 6-12 ; 12 for Rs. 1-24 ; 25 for Rs. 24 ; 50 for Rs. 4) ; 75 for Rs. 60 ; 100 for Rs. 75.

Silver cover Talisman Rs. 2-8 each.
Gold cover Talisman Rs. 5 each.
Silk cord As. 2 per yard.
One Talisman is given free to a purchaser of three at a time in all cases.
Postage and packing free in India, Burma and Ceylon.

NOTE.—All correspondence is treated as strictly confidential. Testimonials are published when not prohibited.

BEWARE OF WORTHLESS IMITATIONS.

Some unscrupulous dealers seeing a large sale of our Talisman have been selling spurious imitations to harm our prestige by alluring customers with free gifts. Please note that WE ARE THE ORIGINAL INVENTORS of the SARASWATI KAVACHA and none but we can supply GENUINE ARTICLES. Please carefully note our address :—

FOREST DEPARTMENT.

3076.—M. A. Acharya, Esq., Forest Dept. Coorg, Virypet writes.—May I thank you for the Talismans sent to me last year. They have proved to be good to my utmost satisfaction. I have derived great benefits by their use. I strongly recommend them. In his second letter he writes: It is with pleasure I acknowledge the truth of your Talisman and I found things happen almost accordingly.

SUCCESS IN LITIGATION.

Tanjore, 12th November, 1921.

Gentlemen,

I am very glad to inform you that my enemy Mohamed Ibrahim of Boothamangalam, Tanjore Dist., was put in prison for 10 years at Trichinopoly Jail. The Sessions case No. is 32 of 1920. The case was decided by K. S. Venkatachela Iyer, Esq., B.A., B.L., Asstt. Sessions Judge. He, the said Md. Ibrahim, has deceived me for Rs. 6,000. I shall inform other people also about your Talisman. It is sure that I was successful in this case by the help of your Talisman and Talisman alone.

Yours truly,
(Sd.) T. M. S. SHEIKDAWOOD,
Merchant, Railway Outpost, Tanjore.

SEE WHAT THE USERS SAY

GOVERNOR'S BODY GUARD.

1629.—T. Angamuthu, Esqr., the Governor's Body Guard, Madras, writes:—I am extremely glad to inform you that the Talisman has done me very good, not only for me but even for my friends whom I gave them. I am unable to write in this p. c. the immense good your precious Talisman has done to me.

EXCISE AND SALT DEPARTMENT.

7531.—A. E. Rangaswamy Ayyangar, Esq., Salt Dept., Cuddalore, O. T. writes:—I might be permitted to say that I really derived considerable benefit by the wearing of the Talisman by myself and by some members of my family. Some of my friends to whom I gave a few have also spoken well of the effects they have had.

GOVERNMENT POLICE.

2496.—P. Sreenevasa Mudaliar, Esq., Sub-Inspector of Police, Perundurai, Coimbatore District,, Madras Presidency, writes:—I was using your Talisman and found good things out of it. Kindly send me a fresh one for my use per V. P. P. In his second letter he says—I am now at Kullegal having been transferred from Perundurai. I am wearing your Talisman and it is doing good things for me.

TREASURERS.

N. Vanammalai Pillai, Esq., Treasurer, Rameswaram Devastanam, Rameswaram, Ramnad District, writes:—In the year 1918, I got three Kavachas with an extra one more and used one myself and gave the other three to my friends and relatives. All feel happy and free from any anxieties and troubles. I would therefore very strongly like to recommend it to my friends. This Saraswati Kavacha is, in my opinion a God, —sent in this age of Kallyuga. May I request you to kindly send me by V. P. P. 1|2 a dozen with 2 extra.

WANTED AGENTS.
BOTH IN TOWN AND MOFUSSIL
FOR THE SALE OF OUR
CELEBRATED.
TALISMAN.
(SARASWATI KAVACHA) RULES.

1. Selected Agents will be supplied with these Kavachas at wholesale rates, viz., 30 per Rs. 20. They are not required to pay the full amount at once.
2. On receipt of an indent, 30 Kavachas will be sent to an Agent either for an advance of Rs. 10 or per V. P. P. for the same amount. The balance Rs. 10 should be paid in quarterly instalments of Rs. 5 each.

It should be distinctly understood that all previous dues must be paid before submission of another indent for further supply.

3. Such Agents as are able to sell 120 Kavachas or more per year, will be enlisted as Registered Agents.
4. Each Agent will be supplied with 100 circulars of our prospectus and Testimonials.

DETAILED LIST OF TESTIMONIALS IN ENGLISH, HINDI AND URDU SENT FREE ON APPLICATION.

G. D. JOSHI & CO.,

ORIGINAL INVENTORS AND SOLE PROPRIETORS,
Saraswati Assram 9, Peepal Mahadeo DELHI.

AGENCY HOUSE FOR CALCUTTA HOMES.

BIRKMYRE HOSTEL OPENED

CALCUTTA, Jan. 14.

Opening the Birkmyre Hostel for Kalimpong boys, H. E. Lord Lytton said that it had long been the aim of Dr. Graham to have a hostel in Calcutta where, boys, who left Kalimpong to work in that city, could find a home. Seven years ago an appeal had been made for funds to enable this scheme to be executed, but the high prices of property had made it impossible to secure buildings near the business part of the city and the authorities had to be content with a house in Ballygunge. This, however, proved unsuitable, and as soon as the need had been made known to him, Sir Archy Birkmyre had come to the rescue.

The hostel would be an Agency House for the Homes in Calcutta where they would meet in friendly intercourse and renew acquaintances and where the various activities of the Homes in Calcutta would be co-ordinated.

DEBT OF LOVE.

Concluding, the Governor said: "The bestowing and receiving of benefits is a delicate matter. A gift is always embarrasing when it creates an obligation, when it is made in expectation of some return, when it turns the recipient into a debtor. There is only one thing to which we can be in debt without self-reproach and that is love. Sir Archy Birkmyre, I think will admit that to give to Dr. Graham is the best way of giving to oneself and to have a share in his great work is one of the greatest privileges of life."

MORE THAN 90,000 CLIENTS HAVE HAD OUR WONDERFUL FORETELLING

Full Annual Life Reading of amazing accuracy with a wonderful delineation of life and character Re. 1. Five years' Life Reading Rs. 2-8. Postage Extra. State time and date of birth or of writing the letter. Testimonials highest. A trial order will marvellously convince you. The KALINGA Astrological Bureau, Vizianagram City, B. N. Railway.

C.P. MUSLIMS' EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE TO BE CONVENED

NAGPUR, Jan. 14.

A meeting of the prominent Mahomedans of Nagpur was held to consider the desirability of convening a provincial Muslim Educational Conference in the Easter holidays. All the Muslim members of the Central Provinces Council took part in the meeting. Khan Bahadur Ghulam Mohiddin, M.L.C., laid stress on the crying educational needs of the Muslim community and urgency of calling a provincial conference to deliberate on the present educational wants.

It was unanimously resolved to convene a conference and a committee was formed to draw up a programme for the conference. It was also decided to invite Sir Abdur Rahim to preside over the Conference and in case he is not available to approach Sir Mahomed Iqbal of Punjab for the same purpose.—A.P.

FAMINE CONDITION IN RANPUR.

LOCAL BOARD'S REQUEST TO GOVT.

(From A Correspondent.)

RANPUR, Jan. 15.

Regarding famine situation in Bhal Dhandhuka Taluka, the Local Board met yesterday. It passed a resolution that the Board was convinced there were famine conditions. The Board respectfully drew Government's attention and requested them to open famine works immediately. The Board also requested the District Local Board to take the matters in hand and give relief to the famine striken area.

N. U. T. COMMERCIALEXAM.

The ensuing National Union of Teachers (London) Examinations will be held in Bombay in April 1927. Applications for admission with the proper fees must reach the Principal, Byramjee Jeejeebhoy College of Commerce (opp. Charni Road Railway Station, Queen's Road, Bombay) on or before the 17th instant.

DELHI MURDER TRIAL.

EXAMINATION OF COURT WITNESSES

DELHI, Jan. 14.

The hearing in the case against Abdul Rashid was resumed by Mr. H. D. Bhenot, Additional District Magistrate to-day. Mr. Suraj Narain, Public Prosecutor appeared for the first time.

Abdul Rashid was again put into the witness box, and the court asked what his name was, but the accused did not reply. After this he was taken to the dock.

The Court enquired of the defence counsel whether the accused was insane. The defence counsel said: "Yes, sir."

Mr. Suraj Narain at this point put in an application and said the case had been investigated by Mr. P. Orde, Senior Superintendent of Police, assisted by Khan Bahadur Akramul Haq, Dy. Supt. of Police, C.I.D., and Rai Bahadur Levi Dayal, Dy. Supt. of Police and Mr. Aziz Uddin, Court Inspector. The accused was arrested on December 23rd, taken into police custody, and the police investigation continued upto January 11th, 1927. These police officials used to talk to the accused during investigation. When the accused was brought to the Court, the Court Inspector, Mr. Abdul Aziz, talked to him. Mr. Rahman, defence counsel, was later granted an interview with the accused and he had a talk with him. During cross-examination of the prosecution witness, no question was raised as regards the alleged lunacy of the accused. At the last moment, the defence counsel came forward with an application for the examination of 236 witnesses. He submitted that the defence petition was false and concocted, and urged the Court not to grant it.

The defence counsel, replying, said that when he interviewed the accused he was found to be a lunatic.

Mr. Bhenot: "Why did you not bring the matter of the lunacy of the accused to my notice before?"

The defence counsel: I came to know of it on the 11th and submitted an application on the second day.

EXAMINATION OF COURT WITNESSES

After hearing the counsel the Court ordered the examination of court witnesses. Khan Bahadur Ikramul Haq, Deputy Superintendent, C.I.D., accordingly entered the witness box. He stated that he participated in the investigation of the case which was directly under the supervision of Mr. P. L. Orde. Continuing he said, "I was the first person who examined and talked to the accused on the day of the alleged murder and I had been talking to him almost daily till the 10th January. The duration of the talk was often more than half an hour and the accused gave proper replies. He was always found in a sound mind."

Cross-examined by the counsel for the defence the witness stated that the father and brother of the accused interviewed the accused on the 10th January. Aga Mohamed Khan, Thanedar, held an enquiry into the conduct of the accused during the riots of 1924. It was then found that the accused was a man of an excitable nature, but no investigation was made into the sanity of the accused and no evidence as to his sanity or otherwise was recorded. During the investigation it was found that the accused had divorced three wives. Witness was never told that the accused had beaten his son last year.

POLICE SUPERINTENDENT EXAMINED

Mr. P. L. Orde, Senior Superintendent of Police, was the next Court witness. He said the investigation of the case was conducted under his supervision. He talked to the accused on many occasions. He must have had the last talk on Thursday last. The mental condition of the accused was quite normal, and he gave perfectly rational replies. In cross-examination, the witness stated that he did not remember the questions he put to the accused on Thursday last, nor the answers of the accused. Rao Bahadur Malik Dari Dayal, Deputy Superintendent of Police deposed that he participated in the investigation of the case. He often talked to the accused during the investigation.—A.P.

HON. MR. RIEU ON TOUR TO SIND.

The Honourable Mr. J. L. Rieu, Revenue Member of Council, who will be accompanied by Mr. J. W. Smyth, Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, leaves Bombay on tour to Sind on Monday, (24th onst.) arriving at Karachi on the 26th The Hon. Mr. Rieu will leave Karachi on Thursday (the 27th), arriving at Larkana on the 28. He will halt at Sukkur on Saturday and Sunday, (29th and 30th), leaving Sukkur on the 31st, and arriving back in Bombay on February 3rd.

LONDON, Jan. 14.

Nairobi.—The Committee appointed to consider the defence force bill has made a report on its main features. The recommendations include compulsory service, division of population into age groups and elimination of the oath. The Bill will be presented to the new Council after elections. —Reuter.

CRICKET AT M ADRAS

PRESIDENCY MATCH ENDS IN DRAW.

MADRAS, Jan. 14.

The remarkable feature of the afternoon game of the Presidency Cricket was, the hurricane innings of C. K. Naidu. Soon after the start after lunch Indians met with disaster, Ramasami being caught before a single had been added to the score. The crowd cheered Naidu as he walked into the field. He began his account with some singles. He then opened his shoulders and amidst a continuous applause sent bowlers to the boundary. He hit five lovely sixers two of which landed on either side of the press tent. When just nine short of his century his remarkable innings was cut short by a fine catch by Willmott off Johnstone. Sivasankaran continued his innings and reached 174 when he was clean bowled by Johnstone. Sivasankaran who is the wicket-keeper for Indians thus broke the record established by Ward, wicket for Europeans of 173 in the European first innings yesterday.

Shortly after the dismissal of Sivasankaran Indians passed the European first innings score and had made 458 for eight wickets when stumps were drawn for.

The following were scores of the Indians in the first innings.

Sivasankaran b Johnstone	174
Mahamad Hussain c Johnstone b Penfold	67
C. Ramasami c Coleridge	43
C. K. Naidu c Willmott b Johnstone	91
Kannikam c Johnstone b Penfold	24
M. V. Ramanjulu c Vichers b Johnstone	11
M. Baliah l b w b Pentfold P. Yoganathan (batting)	20
Liet Lakhmanan b Johnstone	14
Ganapathy and Gopalan to bat.	
Extras	9
Total for eight wickets	458.

The Second Innings of the European team was a light affair and all were cheaply dismissed for 187 runs. The match thus ended in a draw.—A. P.

CHASMAWALA'S MOFFUSIL EXCURSIONS.

BANDRA MAGISTRATE COMMITS CASE TO SESSIONS.

(From Our Correspondent.)

THANA, Jan. 15.

Babu Chasmawala, the notorious prison-breaker, with his four redoubtable associates is to make his compulsory debut on the 17th January before Mr. Shannon, I.C.S., the Session Judge of Thana when they will be tried for offences punishable under Sections 401 and 75 I.P.C.

The proceedings were originally taken up against Chasmawala and six others in the City Magistrate's Court at Bandra, but Piyarilal Amritlal accused No. 1, who effected his escape with Chasmawala from the Bandra prison, is still at large, and Kasam Ali accused No. 5 who was discharged on account of his illness, is reported to have died. So the proceedings were concluded against Chasmawala and four others and they were committed to the Sessions by the City Magistrate, Bandra.

The period of operations of the gang began on 30th August 1925 and lasted till 23rd December 1925. During this period, eighteen offences of alleged house-breaking and theft have been committed at various places including Thana, Kurla, Bandra, Malad and Santa Cruz, and the property stolen consists of articles of dress, pots, ornaments and liquor bottles.

'REJUVENATOR'

An infallible REMEDY for mental and physical debility, restores vital powers, makes the old young and the weak strong and is invaluable to all brain workers.

MAXIMUM COURSE of TREATMENT:-
12 days 24 doses)
COST Rs. 5/- NET.

Medical Research Institute,
KAPURTHALA (INDIA.)

"FREEDOM A HUMAN ASSET"

BRITISH IMPERIALISM RUNNING DOWN HUMAN LIFE.

"DON'T BE MENDICANTS."

ORGANISE LABOUR.

Unparalleled in the brilliancy of its delivery, and full of mature thoughts on the intricate problems of Capital and Labour, Mr. Shapurji Saklatwala's speech delivered at the Cawasji Jehangir Hall was most interresting and thought-provoing and kept the audience spell-bound for more than an hour.

He vehenmently deprecated the tendencies of certain political parties in India of slavishly adopting the spent-up and extinct party policies in England, which are too antediluvian to meet Indian requirements.

He apealed to the audience to organise labour, and seek their happiness in the general welfare of the masses.

SAKLATWALA'S APPEAL TO BOMBAY'S CITIZENS.

Never before had the C. J. Hall of Bombay presented such an animated appearance (except at the reception of Mahatma Gandhi) as it did on Saturday evening when Mr. Shapurji Saklatwalla captured the imagination of his audience and kept them tense and spell bound for well nigh two hours. Although the meeting was called at 5-30 the auditorium and galleries were packed to the utmost capacity long before five o'clock and the passages and approaches were thronged by crowds of humanity eager to hear the Parsi Communist of whom they had heard so much through the press and the platform. When he made his appearance on the dais he was received with tremendous and continued cheers which were prolonged for couple of minutes. Mrs. Sarojini Naidu on behalf of the Reception Committee welcomed him and said Mr. Saklatwalla represented indomitable courage that knew how to die rather than surrender its ideals. There were men who did not see eye to eye with him but she did not think there was one single man who differed from his ideal and conviction. She hoped that he would revive the soul of India and then garlanded him on behalf of the citizens of Bombay.

AN INDIAN TO THE CORE.

Mr. Saklatwalla who on rising was received with deafening cheers was moved with the reception he received. He told his audeince at the outset that he belonged to the internaional world whose object was to serve human beings. He was proud to be a Parsee and whatever suffering or sorrow might have fallen on him, he always felt that his Indian nature would carry him through. He had always felt that being an Indian he would go through unscathed. He had told his English friends when he came to political clash that though they might be proud of the spirit of John Bull, if the strongest of John Bull were to go to Navsari he would find his match if not better.

WHY HE DISLIKES BRITISH IMPERIALISM.

Continuing he said: "Some of you have an idea that I am an enemy of the English or that they are my enemies. Not at all. Looking to the facts of life that my revered mother and father had their resting place in England, that country is the object of my respect. I was born in Bombay and my children were born in England and, therefore, I have love and respect for both the countries. Whatever activities of life I have conducted I have done through the help of my English comrades who see eye to eye with me. You have heard that I do not like British rule. That I run down Union Jack. Well I do, because I believe that British imperialism is running down human life. The British empire however great, has lost its original value and is producing unemployment and misery to the millions of British citizens. It is in their behalf and for their support that I dislike the British rule and imperialism. Again, you look upon me as having gone Labour mad. You talk of Swaraj and I bring Labour, you talk of rupee exchange and I talk of Labour. You talk of imperialism and I talk of Labour because. I believe that European civilization and European culture must go, that nothing in this life is stationary and that I see in the march of events Labour coming as the power of the world. I wish to see every group or people enjoy liberty for the sake of human pregress. Freedom is the human asset and it curses those who take it away."

THE PROBLEMS OF INDIA.

Coming to Indian problems he said the Btitish officials who came to India and whom they knew as Anglo-Indians were considered by Indians as eviminded persons and that in England and Scotland the British nation resided and was a lover of justice and was conscientious. Indians also believed that they had only to send a deputation of half a dozen Indians to appeal to the conscience of the justice-loving people of Briton and they would get Swaraj. In Briton however, out of 45 millions 35 million tried to get justice but had not got it yet. India had lost, therefore, good many years in that false hope of getting justice by sending deputations ito Brtoni. Mr. Saklatwalla said that the citizens of Briton scattered all over the world were the sample of that race. They represented exactly that human mentality which got rich, became powerful and carried on work on the principle that nothing succeeded like success. Some people had also the idea that in England the Conservative party was selfish and the Liberal party was honest. When he went to England in 1905, however, honest John Morley was the Secretary of State for India and he was responsible for the deportation of nine Indians who were more respectable and honest than the honest John Morley himself. He was looking through a programme of the Indian Liberal Party some time ago and he felt that if that programme was placed before the English Liberal party every member supporting that programme would be turned out of that party and the Indian Liberals would be described as worse than tory. He (Mr. Saklatwalla) was an extremist and demanded human happiness, human rights and human freedom.

ASIA'S FREEDOM DEPENDS ON INDIA'S FREEDOM.

He wished to see India free because on her freedom depended the freedom of Egypt, Arabia, Africa, China and Japan. While he was on the steamer he was discussing the world situation with an English politician and a high police officer. They said that England was a peace loving nation. Mr. Saklatwalla asked them to write on a piece of paper 1805 to 1915 which they did. He then pointed out that within that period of a century and more not a battalion or regiment of any party of the world had raided English shores while Britain had gone to war with France, Russia, Germany, Holland, Spain, Italy Turkey, China, Persia, Africa and India, etc. If that was the price of building happiness of one nation then he would ask them to stop building such happiness further. They were also told that Britain was the lover of justice, endowed with common sense, lover of parliamentary system and constitutional method.

A FAIRY TALE.

The parliamentary and constitutional method, Mr. Saklatwalla said, was based on this principle: "What is good for me, is good for me, I do not care how it is for you." He also once thought that the Westminster was the democratic institution but from his experience he found that it was so only one day in four years, viz, on the day of general elections otherwise it was the oligarchy of 30 Cabinet Ministers backed and supported by bankers and financiers.

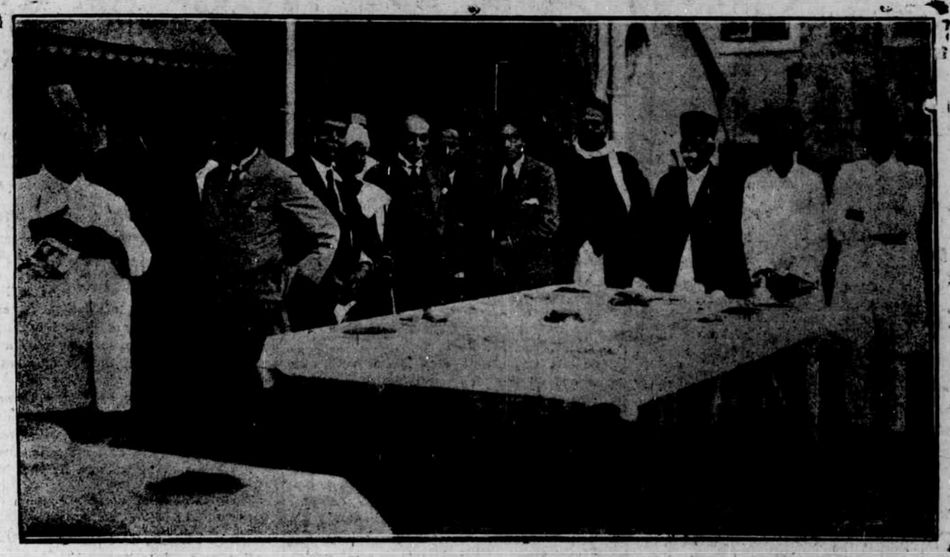
Then again their Indian Liberal friends wanted dominion status, but Mr. Saklatwalla asked them if they understood what they were asking for. Dominion meant "home for a family". The British Government to induce immigration to Newzealand, Australia and Canada gave facilities and rights to Englishmen which were more tempting than what they enjoyed in England. Did the Indian Liberals think that the British Government would give them such rights to enjoy in India or did they mean to invite more Britishers as tenants in India on more tempting rights and privileges than what they enjoyed now in this country (laughter)? He did not think any Indian, or any Englishman or a man of common sense believed in granting dominion status to India on such principles. Then the other demand of the Indian Liberals was the Indianization of the army? What for? asked Mr. Saklatwalla and again he replied midst laughter" "to play with their children?" The army is kept for destruction with all the pious intentions and, he said, the indianization of the army would not solve the problem

Then the Indian Liberals said to allay the fears of England we would not have charge of foreign policy with us, but leave it with the British. Mr. Saklatwala pointed out that the commercial or economic policy was the root cause of trouble and war everywhere and in China at the present time, and if they kept the economic policy to themselves and imposed duty upon Japan, for instance, she would appeal to England, under other treaty and either India shuld abolish it or go to war with England. He therefore did not believe in political phraseology, which may appeal to Ramsay Mcdonald or Lloyd George. Mr. Saklatwala also made a passing reference to non-violent non-co-operation which term he said gave a wrong impression to the world at large that Indians were otherwise violent, and they had to vow nonviolence under certain conditions.

NATIONAL COLLEGE OF LABOUR.

In the end he appealed to Indians to build a National College of Labour which would cost about Rs. 5 lacs to train honest

MR. SAKLATWALA WITH HIS COMRADES.



"Chronicle" Photo.

Mr. Saklatwala was entertained to a te a party at the Servants of India Scoiety hea d-quarters, by the representatives of Labour in Bombay.

among the poor and illiterate workmen and educate them to build up trade unions. This experiment was tried in Russia and in the past five years he said the literacy was raised from 5 per cent. to 82 per cent. and all sorts and conditions of men loved each other in brotherly affection.

The meeting terminated with singing of "Bande Mataram."

WORKERS DOWN-TRODDEN EVERYWHERE.

TRADE UNIONS THE ONLY REMEDY.

It was quite a crowded labour meeting which Mr. Shapurji Saklatwalla addressed on Saturday night at Damodar Thackersy Open Maidan, Parel, Mr. B. G. Horniman presiding. The Communist M.P. was given a rousing reception when he mounted the platform with his smiling face.

A MAN OF SACRIFICE.

Introducing Mr. Saklatwalla to the workers, Mr. N. M. Joshi observed that he was their comrade, philosopher and guide. He had suffered for the working population of the world and, especially that of Great Britain. That the voters of Battersea should have selected an Indian to represent and safeguard their interests in the Parliament, continued Mr. Joshi, was a genuine and undeniable proof of the high regard and admiration in which Mr. Saklatwalla was held by the workers of England.

JUSTICE AND EQUALITY.

Mr. S. K. Bole who followed, congratulated the M.P. upon his most admirable success at the parliamentary elections. Reports had it, proceeded Mr. Bole, that Mr. Saklatwalla's speeches were always vilolent and stormy but to his surprise and gratification, he had seen nothing of the kind. Mr. Saklatwalla, he wound up, was a born fighter for the cause of justice and equality for all human being in the world.

WORKERS DOWN-TRODDEN EVERY WHERE.

Mr. Saklatwalla, who spoke in Hindi for nearly an hour, was warmly applauded every now and then. Describing the conditions of labour in various countries, he pointed out that the labourers were downtrodden everywhere. If there was any difference in their conditions, it was merely of a degree and not of a kind. The world-war, continued the speaker, was fought and won by the valour and sacrifice of poor men; but what were the emoluments which those poor people got? The fetters round their feet were made tighter than before. The victory in the war was the victory of the capitalists of the world at the cost of poor men's blood. While hungry soldiers were shedding their innocent blood on the battle-field of France, the capitalists were amassing wealth in heaps.

A VICIOUS CIRCLE.

Proceeding Mr. Saklatwalla observed that the workers of the world were always made to move in a vicious circles. The wages of British labourers were reduced on the plea that some other country was paying less to its workers. The bad effects of competition and trade-emergency were to be suffered by working classes, while the masters were quite at ease with, their heavy balances safely deposited in banks. The situation had become intolerable and it was high time that the working classes had to be roused to the consciousness of their natural rights.

ORGANISE TRADE UNIONS.

"The remedy for all these evils which the workers have been suffering so long", went on the Communist M.P., "Is that they must organise themselves in formidable Trade Unions. Look to the history of Trade Unions in Western Countries. In less than half a century they have created such a tremendous force in human life that the whole world is shaking before it. I have been closely connected with Trade Union movement in England and I can assure you the sympathy and practical help of the British labourers in your fight for emancipation. Turn your gaze to the glorious examples of Russia and China. In Russia the workers were as illiterate and less advanced as the workers in this country but when they formed themselves into Trade Unions, they created such an enormous force that the invincible Russian capitalism had to crumble before it. The example of China is more inspiring still. The workers there wrought their liberty in less than two years' time simply on the strength of unity and organisation."

"WORLD UNIONS AT YOUR BACK".

"Remember" emphasised Mr. Saklatwalla, "All the Trade Unions of the world, the mill-workers of Bombay struck as a are holding out their support and sympathy to you in your struggle. Last year when consequence of the reduction of wages and were reduced to starvation for want of funds, the trade unions of England, Germany and Belgium, immediately sent a contribution of nearly 20,000 rupees. But you cannot always depend upon foreign assistance. You ought to create your our unions and own funds. Fight as much as you like within your unions, but never run the risk of leaving the unions. In conclusion, I assure you that in Unions lies your strength and in their prosperity lies your salvation."

MAKE IT YOUR BUSINESS

Mr. B. G. Horniman, while winding up the proceedings, expressed gratification at the informing and helpful address, Mr. Saklatwalla had given. He said he knew of no other speaker who had such a happy and healthy way of bringing home the logic and merit of the subject, than comrade Saklatwalla. Mr. Horniman exhorted the workers not to forget the inspiring advice which their comrade had given them. He asked them to to make it their business and proceed accordingly. That was the only way, concluded Mr. Harniman, of bringing about the conquest over the conditions and over those who were imposing those conditions.

Messrs. Ginwalla and Jogalekar proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the chair and comrade Saklatwalla and the meeting dispersed.

Mr. Shapurji Saklatwala, M.P., who arrived in Bombay on Friday by S.S. "Kanmak."

MR. SAKLATWALA AND COMMUNIST CONFERENCE.

WILL HE PRESIDE?

The following is a copy of the letter written by Mr. Saklatwala to Mr. Gopi-Nath Singh, Secretary, Provisional Committee, All-India Communist Conference, Lahore:—

22nd December, 1926.

Dear Comrade Singh,

I am in receipt of your letter of the 2nd inst., and by the time this reaches you, you will have probably learnt that I am arranging to make a hasty tour of India with a political programme among other things.

I shall very likely be in Lahore as the seat of the Punjab Council during my tour and if a convenient date can be fixed I should like to attend and follow your proceedings and even speak as a Communist. However, it will be out of the question for me to associate myself officially with or preside over such an informal organisation as yours even though you name it a Communist Conference.

You will recognise that in the same way that individuals cannot on their own suddenly open in Lahore a branch of Tata Co., or Sassoon Co., or the Bombay Bank, or in polities a branch of the British Labour Party or the Primrose League, so also you cannot suddenly start a Communist Party all on your own, especially when the Communist Party insists on its main character being a world-international wherein members of all nationalities and creeds carry out a united programme for working class freedom. However, I should certainly like to attend your Conference to learn what you comrades are driving at.

Yours fraternally,

SHAPURJI SAKLATWALA.

A Bhavanagar message of January 14 says:—The laying of new railway line between Rajula Road Station and Rajulu quarry will shortly be taken in hand. The cost has been estimated at about Rs 3,50,000.—Free Press.

PROTECTION TO TEXTILE INDUSTRY.

PROGRESSIVE TARIFFS.

RUMOURED RECOMMENDATIONS.

Various rumours are current in the city about the recommendations of the Tariff Board in connection with the textile trade of this country. It is rumoured that the recommendations of the Tariff Board will be on a progressive scale, some where on the following lines.

Below 30's Counts 20 per cent duty.

Between 30's 40's Counts 15 per cent duty.

Above 40's Count. No protection.

Nothing definitely is known as we understand from our enquiries, but the delay in publishing the report gives room for rumours and gossips.

The mill industry is passing through a very serious crisis and some mills are thinking of working short time. From a financial point of view it is one of the remedies but as an effective measure it has never succeeded in other parts of the world. Recently Lancashire trade was thinking of working on an organised short time system, but the motion was defeated as some mills who were doing well did not believe in it. The result was that all restrictions were removed and in some cases over productions is proving beneficial as it shows a low cost of production.

The Tariff Board Report is expected to be out next week and until it is out, nothing definitely can be accertained about the future of the industry.

MUSIC HALL CLOSED IN ROME.

MUSSOLINI'S NEW EDICT.

CALCUTTA, Jan 15.

A special cable to "The Englishman" says Sr. Mussolini has closed all music halls in Rome. Others throughout Italy will be subjected to severe control as he considers music halls immoral, and, therefore dangerous to the youth of the nation.—Free Press.

ACCUSED IN CALCUTTA BOMB. DISCOVERY.

TO BE TRIED BY SPECIAL TRIBUNAL

CALCUTTA, Jan. 15.

The Government of Bengal, it is understood, have decided to place the young Bengalees arrested in connection with the find of arms recently made by the police for trial before a Special Tribunal.

The Special Tribunal will be constituted under the provision of the Bengal Ordinance.

Acting on the statement made by one of the two young men arrested by the Calcutta police on Thursday night, the police raided two more houses in Howrah yesterday. No arrests have been made.—Free Press.

CALCUTTA BOMBSHELL DISCOVERY.

SPECIAL TRIBUNAL TO TRY CASE.

CALCUTTA, Jan. 15.

The Associated Press is authoritatively informed that a Special Tribunal composed of Mr. J. C. Sankey, District and Sessions Judge, Alipur (Chairman) and Mr. P. C. De, District and Sessions Judge, Hooghly, and Mr. Motilal Roy (members) has been appointed to try the accused in the case arising out of the discovery of bombshells and revolvers in Calcutta last week.

The tribunal will assemble at Alipore for the hearing of the case some time next week.—A. P.

RECAPTURE OF MISSING PRISONER.

SECOND MAN STILL AT LARGE.

News is to hand of the re-capture of Simon De Souza, one of the prisoners who escaped from the Byculla Police Station cells in the early hours of Wednesday morning, as reported in our columns. Information was lodged at he C. I. D. office on Friday morning that the escaping prisoner was seen loitering in the purviews of Kurla in the suburbs of the city. The C. I. D. set out for Kurla and with the aid of the District Police organised two search parties who drew a cordon round an open brushwood in which the prisoner was suspected to be hiding. Taking advantage of cover, the prisoner remained in hiding throughout the day, crossing two streams and dodging his pursuers for the whole day till it appeared the search would have to be given up owing to the near approach of night. Eventually the prisoner wa sbrought to bay near the Kurla pipe line near sundown and surrendered without any resistance.

He is now lodged in the cells of the Byculla Police station and on statement made by him, the arrest of the second absconding prisoner is expected at any moment.

ASSEMBLY NOMINATIONS.

DISAPPOINTING LIST.

MESSRS. JOSHI & KIKABHAI FOR BOMBAY.

(From Our Correspondent.)

NEW DELHI, Jan. 14.

The nomination list of the Assembly like the New Year's Honours' list is always scanned by the public with usual disappointment; but this time the cup of disappointment is full in the case of nominations made to the newly-constituted Assembly. The list published to-day will reveal that Government had been guided by awarding a prize for loyalty and on considerations of obtaining assured votes in the Assembly as against Nationalist forces. The number of nominated seats is fourteen, but the Governor-General has published to-day the names of thirteen and reserved the publishing of the name of the remaining one till another date.

NOTABLE OMISSIONS.

The 13 do not include Sir Sivaswami Iyer or Sir Chimanlal Setalvad, who voiced the Liberal opinion in the country in the last Assembly, nor does it contain Dr. S. K. Datta, who espoused the cause of the Indian Christian community with admirable frankness. Except for three or four notable exceptions the list is extremely barren, and although some of the names published are those which have already been forecasted in several quarters, the full list does not enhance the reputation of Government for seeking light and knowledge.

Mr. K. C. Roy can, in a way, be regarded as the representative of the press in India, being a working journalist and the head of an All-India news agency. He can be expected to represent the grievances of the fourth estate with ability. His services as President of the Upper India Journalists' Association last year in connection with the contempt of Courts Bill and the Bill to prevent spread of communalist literature are already known. From Bengal there is also Prince Akram Hussain, whose vote on the side of Government is a decided certainty. From the United Provinces there is the Raja of Jehangirabad who has very little to his credit as a legislator.

FRONTIER REPRESENTATION.

The nominations for the martial province have gone to Sardar Jowahis Singh and Captain Kabul Singh, replacing Captains Hira Singh and Ajab Khan thereby recording no improvement in the representation of the warrior class. From Bihar has been selected Syed Ashrafudin Ahmed, who has been very little known even in that backward province. The support which Sir Aboul Qayum gave to the Government during the last three years has secured for him once more the membership in the Assembly from the Frontier Province. His contribution to the welfare of his own province in the Assembly has been noticed only in his participation in the debate on Frontier Reforms. He never gave signs of initiative for voicing the feelings of the people of the frontier. His vote was always on the side of Government.

OBJECTIONABLE PRINCIPLE.

In the place of Dr. S. K. Datta, who represented the Christian community, here is Mr. Ratnaswami Pillai, ex-President of the Madras Council who was ignominiously defeated in the last election. Mr. Ratnaswami can never be a good substitute for Dr. Datta, and, moreover, the principle of selecting a defeated candidate to a nominated seat is open to grave objection. Dr. Datta had consistently taken a reasonable attitude on all questions before the Assembly. He was a trenchant critic of all bad measures, whether from popular or from Government side.

The place of Sir Sivaswami Iyer, that able critic of army matters, will be occupied by Rao Bahadur M. C. Rajah, but the choice fell on him because of giving representation to the "Depressed" classes, consideration which never before weighed with Government. But whether Mr. Rajah is fit representative of even the submerged classes will be seen by his future record in the assembly.

LEASE TO COL GIDNEY.

The Anglo-Indian community will be representated in the Assembly for the third time by Col. Gidney, thus disappointing the hopes of three or four persons who have been in the race for the post. Colonel Gidney is a direct counterpart of what Dr. Datta was on behalf of the Indian Christian community in the assembly, and his voice and vote were ever ready on the side of the Government and against popular causes.

VICTORY FOR LABOUR.

The re-nomination of Mr. Joshi is an event on which Sir B. N. Mitra should be congratulated. There were several names which were recently discussed in filling this place on behalf of Labour interests, but the fight which Sir B. N. Mitra must have fought has resulted in a victory for the labour classes who can be sure of the best representation.

Mr. Kikabhai Premchand takes the place of Sir Chimanlal Setalvad. The re-nomination of Sir Walter Wilson was a foregone conclusion and the representation of the Associated Chambers of Commerce thus remains as able as ever.

14TH SEAT.

The fourteenth seat will in all probability go to Madras and if rumour is to be credited, the choice will fall on a distinguished member of the Liberal school of thought.

SENSATION IN BUNDI STATE.

HIGH OFFICIALS DEPORTED.

BRITISH INTERVENTION SOLICITED.

AJMERE, Jan. 15.

"Tarun Rajasthan's" special correspondent reports the deportation of Pandit Nityanand Nagar, son of the late Dewan and Madan Mohan Varma, late Private Secretary, from Bundi State. No written order or reason was given by the authorities for deportation, but were simply asked by the Police Superintendent to leave State territories within four hours. Pandit Nagar intends to approach the British authorities concerned shortly.—Free Press.

ANNUAL CONVENTION OF SALESMEN.

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS SENT OVER PHONE

LONDON, Jan. 14.

Mr. Robert Leiber, President of the First National Pictures was unable to come to London to preside over the annual convention of salesmen of its British branch. Nevertheless he addressed the convention by telephone from New York, the managing director in London repeataing his words to the salesmen. At the conclusion of the speech between forty to fifty of those present uttered short sentences of greeting to the president till the exchange cut them off after fifteen minutes.—Reuter's Special.

PROSECUTION UNDER LIQUOR LAWS

CASE AGAINST LONDON'S SOCIETY CLUB.

LONDON, Jan. 14.

Nearly a hundred summonses were heard at the Marlborough Street Police Court today against the management and guests of the Kitcat Club, one of the best known of London's society clubs which was raided on 11th December. All summonses referred to the alleged offences under liquor laws, one of which requires cause to be shown why the club whose members include many prominent members of society, stage, law, House of Lords and House of Commons should not be struck off the register. In the course of hearing it was stated that champagne at thirty shillings a bottle with sandwiches at a pound sterling for a plate of five was served to the constable after hours. Police took down 333 names during the raid under difficulties when lights were turned down for a cabaret show. A number of visitors were fined ten sterling each. Remaining charges will be heard on the 28th January.—Reuter's Special.

MONTREAL THEATRE FIRE CASUALTIES

CORONER'S VERDICT.

LONDON, Jan. 14.

Montreal.—The Coroner found the owner, assistant manager and head usher of the Laurier cinema theatre criminally responsible for the death of seventy-eight children in a recent fire. Evidence showed that they were responsible for the admission of children who were unaccompanied by adults which was contrary to provincial regulations.—Reuter's Special.

INTERNATIONAL RUGBY MATCH.

LONDON, Jan. 15.

In International Rugby match England beat Wales by 11 points to 9 at Twickenham.—Reuter.

LONDON, Jan. 15.

At Twickenham a crowd of 40,000 included many thousands of Welshmen wearing leeks and daffodils who sang the usual patriotic songs while waiting for the start. One tied a leek to the top of the goal post. England pressed at the outset, and Corbett made mark and took kick himself, giving England a lead of three points after six minutes. A quarter of an hour later, Rowe-Harding scored a try for Wales, thus equalising. Nine minutes later, Andrews scored a try for Wales, but Stanbury replied with a penalty goal for England. Towards the interval, Corbett scored a try which Stanbury converted. Thus at half-time England was leading by eleven points to six.

The second half was strenuously fought out. The Welsh forwards were magnificent in scrummaging and tackling but the English defence was equal to the test. After half an hour, Male scored a penalty goal for Wales, amid tremendous enthusiasm. There was a very desperate finish, and both lines had narrow escapes, but no further addition to the score resulted, and England won by the narrow margin of eleven points to nine.—Reuter's Special.

GANDHIJI'S TOUR.

WALKS TWO MILES TO MEET LABOURERS

PATNA, Jan. 15.

Gandhiji had a busy day at Dhanbad yesterday. He addressed meetings at Dhanbad, Jharia and other adjoining places. In the morning, he received two addresses, one from the Dhanbad Municipality and other from the Local Board.

A distinguished gathering was present in the Dhanbad Town Hall on the occasion. Replying to these addresses, Gandhiji said that he used to take keen interest in Municipal affairs even when he was in South Africa. He knew that towns played an important part in the affairs of the country. But in the peculiar condition of India, towns were at the most, only of secondary importance. India lived in villages. The importance of village life, therefore, was not to be lost sight of by the Commissioners of the Municipality. There was a growing tendency, Gandhiji continued, on the part of educated men to cut off all their connection with villages. This tendency was to be checked in India. Unlike Europe, it was villages that nourished the towns and as such it was the duty of every townsman to see that healthy growth of villages was not interfered with in any way. He next exhorted them to push on khaddar and charkha.

MEETINGS AFTER MEETINGS.

At the special request of the Raja of Komarjiri, Gandhiji and party visited his place about ten miles off from Dhanbad. On the way, he alighted from the car and walked about two miles on foot. The way lay through coal-fields and hundreds of labourers were seen eagerly waiting to have his darshan. Here a purse of Rs. 500 was presented to him and a further promise made. From there, he proceeded to Katras and thence to Jharia, addressing meetings after meetings in the latter place. He was presented an address on behalf of the Indian Colliery Employees' Association. He returned to Dhanbad in the evening. He left for Gaya visiting Aurangabad on the way.—Free Press.

ARTICLES FOR PREPARING EXPLOSIVES.

SEIZED BY POLICE IN RAID.

CALCUTTA, Jan. 16.

The "Statesman" understands that, among the documents seized during the recent raids by the police, is a list of articles which can be used for the preparation of explosive substances. The examination of the articles seized is proceeding, and the men arrested, are still in custody.—A.P.

PROGRESS OF BEHAR

GOVT'S SOLE WISH

PATNA, Jan. 14.

Addressing the Bihar and Orissa Legislative Council to-day His Excellency Sir Henry Wheeler said that it had been his good fortune to have been associated with two Legislative Councils during his term of office and he rejoiced to believe that by working together they had been able to do something for the benefit of the people of the province. The sole wish of the whole Government, added His Excellency, was to further the progress of Bihar and Orissa and they asked their whole-hearted help in their efforts towards that end. He assured the members that he would follow their proceedings with the deepest interest and with the earnest hope that they might prove to be wise, fruitful and beneficial.

Congratulating Khan Bahadur Khawaja Mahomed Noor on his election as the President of the Council His Excellency expressed the hope that his tenure of office might be smooth and successful. The Khan Bahadur, said His Excellency, had already given practical evidence in the past Councils of his fitness for the post to which, therefore, he did no come untired. It must be gratifying to him to feel that he continued to enjoy the confidence of his fellow members.

Babu Lakshmidhar Mahanti (member from South Cuttack) was elected Deputy President of the Council. He secured 54 votes while his rival candidate Babu Godavaris Misra (Swarajist) got 43 votes.—A.P.

SIR S HOARE'S PROGRAMME.

NEW DELHI, Jan. 15.

Sir Samuel Hoare will leave Delhi on Monday, the 17th January, at 10 o'clock in the morning in a service aeroplane, accompanied by six other machines, Group-Captain Mill will lead the formation. Among others accompanying Sir Samuel Hoare will be Lord Winterton and Sir Victor Warrender. The party will halt at Ambala for lunch, and then proceed to Lahore where they will be the guests of the Governor of the Punjab.—A. P.

LORD LYTTON'S CONFERENCE WITH LEGISLATORS.

CALCUTTA, Jan. 15.

Lord Lytton presided over a Conference held in Government House, Calcutta, with the members of the Legislative Assembly and the Council of State representing Bengal.—A. P.

BRITISH COTTON GOODS FOR INDIA.

EXPORTS EXCEED THE 1925 LEVEL.

BRIGHT PROSPECTS FOR LANCASHIRE'S TRADE.

LONDON, Jan. 15.

The annual report of the Indian Section of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce expresses satisfaction that the exports of cotton goods to India in 1926 exceeded the level of 1925. The figures of exports of cotton yarn to India show that the yearly decline has at length been checked while the Japanese figures show a corresponding decline.

The economic prospects of the future of Lancashire's trade with India are perhaps more hopeful than they have been for some time, provided trade is not hampered by any barrier likely to work to the detriment of the Indian consumer and providing that the industry in Britain is allowed to continue without interruption. Possibly, Lancashire will regain considerably more of her volume of pre-war trade than was possible in recent years. The report hopes that the Indian Tariff Board will be satisfied that no higher duty should be imposed on Lancashire goods.—Reuter's Special.

STOURBRIDGE BYE-ELECTION

SIR HERBERT SAMUEL'S CANDIDATURE.

RUGBY, Jan. 15.

The Liberal Party has decided to invite Sir Herbert Samuel to become its candidate at the forthcoming bye-election in the Stourbridge Division of Worcestershire. In the event of his success Samuel will thus return to domestic politics. As is known he occupied high offices in Liberal Governments before he became the first British High Commissioner for the Mandated Territory of Palestine. After his retirement from this post last year he was much in the public eye as the Chairman of the Coal Commission.—B. O. W.

SUPER-WIRELESS TELEPHONE

VOICE CONVEYED A THOUSAND MILES IN ARCTICS.

RUGBY, Jan. 15.

The transmission of the human voice from one merchant ship to another over the Arctic Circle is reported by the Hudson Bay Company as having taken place during the last voyage of the steamer "Bay Rupert." This ship was fitted with one hundred watt Marconi Wireless telephone before starting from Montreal on its voyage to rading posts in Hudson Bay. Very much greater ranges than had been anticipated were achieved and the speech from the "Bay Rupert" was clearly received in ships "Bay Maud" and "Bay Chimo" which were six hundred miles and eleven hundred miles distant respectively.—B. O. W.

DEADLOCK IN GERMANY.

HERR CURTIS UNABLE TO FORM CABINET.

LONDON, Jan. 14.

Berlin.—Herr Curtius has notified Gen. Hindenburg of his failure to form the Cabinet owing to the Centrists not seeing their way clear to co-operate in the government with the Nationalists.—Reuter.

COALITION CABINET FORMING

DR. MARX'S LATEST TASK.

LONDON, Jan. 15.

Berlin.—President Hindenburg has commissioned Dr. Mark to negotiate with different parties with a view to the formation of a Coalition Cabinet.—Reuter.

B. AND O. COUNCIL.

COALITION OF CONGRESS AND INDEPENDENT PARTIES.

PATNA, Jan 15.

A meeting of the Congress Party of the Behar and Orissa Legislative Council was held yesterday and was attended by some members of the Independent Congress Party, who said that if the Congress Party was ready to co-operate with them, nothing would be wanting on their part to reciprocate that co-operation. It is understood that names proposed for the various committees of the Legislative Council by the Congress Party include those of Independent Congress Party as well as other Independents. It is understood that some non-Congress members including some nominated members met yesterday with a view to form a party in the Council. Mr. Jagat Narain, leader of the Independent Congress Party attended that meeting for a while and suggested that if the object of the promoters of the meeting was to offer discriminate opposition to the Government, his party might join them. A separate party was then formed by the promoters, the convener of the meeting being the

MAHARANI OF BARODA AS REFORMER.

"STATESMAN'S" TRIBUTE.

CALCUTTA, Jan. 15.

Commenting on the speech of the Maharani of Baroda, the "Statesman" writes: The evils of early marriage and 'purdah' system have often been exposed by both English and Indian reformers; but it is doubtful if they have ever been denounced in such scathing terms as those employed by the Maharani of Baroda at the All-India Women's Conference recently held at Poona. She has long stood out among Indian Princesses as a lady of exceptional force of character and zeal with which she has now thrown herself into the ranks of reformers. This will gratify her many friends as much as it will electrify the public.—Free Press.

BARODA'S NEW DEWAN.

TO RECEIVE POWERS ON MAHARAJA'S BIRTHDAY.

BARODA, Jan. 15.

Though the investiture generally takes place on the Dasserah Day, as His Highness the Maharajah of Baroda will be out of Baroda by that time, it has been decided that the Dewan should receive his powers on the birth-day of His Highness, which falls in the first week of March.

The Baroda Legislative Council meets for its winter session on January 20, and the new Dewan will address it if he assumes charge by that time.—Free Press.

DEWAN TO TAKE CHARGE IN JANUARY END.

BARODA, Jan. 15.

Mr. Krishnamachari, Dewan-designate of Baroda, will take over charge of his office in the last week of January.

SIR MANUBHAI'S SERVICES.

APPRECIATION BY CITIZENS.

BARODA, Jan. 15.

Sir Manubhai Mehta on his relinquishing the Dewanship of Baroda has been the recipient of various public addresses on his admirable administration of the State during the absence of the Maharajah. At a public meeting of the citizens of Baroda, convened by the Sheriff of Baroda, it was decided to hold a dinner in his honour and to found a scholarship in philosophy, the subject in which Sir Manubhai is greatly interested.—Free Press.

NO INCREASE FOR LOW PAID SERVANTS.

BARODA, Jan. 15.

A Deputation of Railway Mail and Postal Union waited upon the Director-General of Posts and Telegraphs, who is at present in Baroda, to represent that the scale of pay given them was lower than in Ahmedabad. Sir Ganen Roy, in reply, stated that as the living in Baroda was cheaper it was not possible to bring the scale of pay in Baroda to the level of Ahmedabad.—Free Press.

BARODA COUNCIL SESSIONS.

BARODA, Jan. 15.

For the ensuing session of the Baroda Legislative Council which commences on the 20th January, as many as 57 interpellations and 54 resolutions have been tabled. The session will be the last in the life of the present Council.

The resolutions include one from Mr. Kalidas asking the State authorities to stop all further taxation; one from Mr. Vidyashanker Vakil requesting the Maharaja to retain Sir Manubhai N. Mehta as Dewan for two more years, and to place a bust of the Dewan in the Council Hall, and one from Mr. Manekla1 expressing dissatisfaction at the resolution of the Senate of Bombay University regarding the establishment of a Law College at Baroda.—A. P.

CHARLE CHAPLIN'S TERRIBLE SITUATION.

CALCUTTA, Jan. 15.

A "Statesman's" cable says: Charle Chaplin, the famous film star whose wife is seeking divorce, told audiences of reporters that his situation was terrible. All his property and fortune estimated at Dollars 3,500,000 were in the hands of receivers appointed at the instance of his wife. According to one report steps are probable, with a view to the eventual deportation of the comedian who was born in England. The law of California regarding domestic disputes is dramatically drastic. It confers on the wife who obtains divorce on infidelity grounds the right of all the property of husband, acquired before mar-

WASTING A CRORE OF RUPEES.

KALYAN POWER HOUSE.

AN EXTRAVAGANT SCHEME.

The Kalyan Power House Scheme was the subject of scathing criticism at a public meeting held on Friday evening at the Marwadi Vidyalaya Hall under the auspices of the Parsi Pajkeya Sabha. Mr. B. G. Horniman presided.

The chairman explained that the object of the meeting was to protest against an extravagent scheme started by the bureaucratic friends of India. The Kalyan Power House Scheme was another of the Government's scandalous enterprises the first being that of the Backbay from the sobek of which the City had not yet recovered. The scheme and the expenses entailed were a clear example of the Government's way of spending money. History of the scheme of spending money.

HISTORY OF THE SCHEME.

Mr. Jamnadas Mehta who spoke next described the action of the Government as taken in definance of the Railway Finance Committee whose proceedings were more or less confidential. Mr. Mehta, however, took the public in his confidence so far as he conveniently could and said that the scheme of the Power House was prepared in 1924 and was placed before the Railway Finance Committee. The idea was to bring coal from Bengal and produce electricity by turning it into steam. The scheme involved an expenditure of Rs. 9,740,000 as then estimated. As the Tata's had their Hydraulic Power House already and as the were supplying power to the B. B. & C. I. and T. Company, they had been consulted and they had quoted .62 annas per unit as their charges. Against that there was an estimate of about a crore of rupees for a new Power House which was to supply power at a cost of .571 annas per unit. The matter was placed before the Railway Finance Committee on 11th September 1925. The Committee refused to accept the scheme and the estimates as reliable because they doubted the latter's correctness and directed that the Tata's should be referred to again.

UNSOUND ARGUMENTS.

However, at a later date by a confidential document, the Government proceeded with the scheme on the following grounds:

(1) That for running such a huge electric Railway which ought to be very regular, private company cannot be relied upon.

(2) That there was no knowing when the Tata's dams would cease to work and thereby cease to supply power.

(3) That such a private firm cannot be relied on occasions of civil fight or commotion or other troubles of a similar nature.

(4) That the Government power house would be able to supply at a cheaper rate.

Mr. Mehta said that the arguments advanced by the Government were all unsound. Moreover the provision in the last year's budget was only for Rs. 20 lacs and the Government had gone beyond the budget in actually landing the scheme.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED.

He therefore moved the following two resolutions:

(1) This meeting condemns the action of the Railway Board in proceeding with the construction of the Power House at Kalyan for the supply of electricity in connection with the scheme of the electrification of the G.I.P. Railway and in wasting public money on that without the approval of the Standing Finance Committee of Railways.

(2) That this public meeting urges the Government of India to take immediate steps to cancel all orders placed in England and India and to desist from placing further orders for building materials, machinery and other plants connected with the scheme until it is examined and reported by an independent committee of experts to the Government of India for further consideration.

After Mr. B. F. Bharucha seconded the resolutions, they were unanimously adopted.

The meeting then terminated.

T. U. C'S INQUEST ON THE GENERAL STRIKE.

LONDON, Jan. 14.

The report of the Council of the Trade Union Congress for the long deferred "inquest" on the general strike in the shape of a conference of executives of affiliated unions which took place on 20th November has been issued to the delegates to-day as a confidential document and will be published on 20th January. It is understood that it consists of two sections. The first summarrises the mining dispute and the course of events to the termination of the general strike, explains the Council's motive for calling off the general strike and repudiates certain suggestions made in that connection. The second deals with subsequent events to the end of November including the T. U. C.'s mediation efforts and makes outspoken comments on the mining dispute defending T. U. C.'s action.

BENGAL SWARAJISTS AND LORD LYTTON.

RELEASE OF DETENUES DEMANDED.

THE GOVERNOR'S STATEMENT.

CALCUTTA, Jan. 15.

In response to the invitation of His Excellency Lord Lytton, about 20 members of the Legislative Assembly and the Council of State from Bengal met His Excellency at the Government House this noon. Discussion centred round the question of the release of Bengal detenues, provincial contribution, and the application of laws towards the press. It is understood that in reply to the questions of T. C. Goswami, the Governor made some statements in connection with the release of the political prisoners. The question of provincial contribution was also raised and discussed. The recent proscription of Mr. Sarat Chatterjee's "Patherdabi" was brought to the notice of His Excellency but nothing definite transpired.—Free Press.

CALCUTTA, Jan. 15.

It is understood that in order to exchange views on the present political situation in Bengal and to discuss other important provincial matters having connection with the Central Government, His Excellency the Governor has invited all members of the Legislative Assembly elected from Bengal to meet him at the Government House today:—Free Press.

TOWARDS MINISTRY

NEW COMUNAL FACT IN BENGAL

CALCUTTA, Jan. 16.

The "Forward" announces that a pact has been entered into between "A defender of Hindu faith and a defender of the Moslem faith" as the first step towards an attempt to form a Ministry in Bengal. The terms of the pact are as follows: A Hindu Minister will not initiate or support any legislation or policy to which half the non-Swarajist Muslim members object. Similarly, a Mahomedan Minister will not initiate or support any legislation or policy to which half the non-Swarajist Hindu members object. 2. During the ilfetime of the present Council, there should be no legislation or other provision for special communal electorate in any municipality, district board, local board, local body, University or board of secondary education.—A. P.

MEDICAL COUNCIL ELECTION.

DR. BAPAT'S CANDIDATURE.

We understand that for the seat on the Bombay Medical Council, which has fallen vacant by the death of Dr. K. G. Lohokare, Dr. R. V. Bapat of Kolhapur is offering himself as a candidate. This seat is to be filled by the Sub-Assistant Surgeons, of the Presidency by the election of one from amongst themselves, and Dr. Bapat, whose candidature we are now announcing, is well-known in that constituency as a Sub-Assistant Surgeon of long standing and as the founder and editor of the first monthly started in the interest of the Sub-Assistant Surgeons—"The Hospital Assistant"—which was conducted at great pecuniary secrifice for nearly twelve years.

BOMBAY COUNCIL PRESIDENTSHIP.

MR. G. B. PRADHAN'S CANDIDATURE.

(From Our Correspondent.)

THANA, Jan. 14.

In order to ascertain whether Mr. G. B. Pradhan has really decided to offer himself as a candidate for election to the Presidentship of the Bombay Legislative Council and, if so, whether he has any chances of success, our Thana correspondent had an interview with him yesterday morning when he made the following statement:—

"On Sunday, (the 2nd inst.,) a meeting of the United Nationalists Party was held in Mr. Lalji Naranji's office when I was unanimously selected as an official candidate from the Party for the Presidential chair and the Secretary of the Party was instructed to send letters to all the members to that effect. This was all done in my absence before I went to Mr. Lalji's office to attend the meeting. I am also asked to face the election whoever may be the other candidates in the field. In obedience to the wishes of the Party I have, commenced canvassing and I have every hope that almost all the parties will support my candidature in preference to any other candidate in the field."

MR. DE TO BE FINANCE SECRETARY.

NAGPUR, Jan. 15.

The "Hitavada" understands that Mr. De, Revenue Secretary to the Government of the Central Provinces will be appointed Finance Secretary. This is the first time, says the paper, that an Indian will be appointed to the post in the province.—Free Press.

PROGRESS OF HUMANITY

MR. PICKTHALL ON ISLAM'S AIM.

MADRAS, Jan. 15.

The first of the series of lectures on "Islam" by Mr. Marmaduke Pickthall, ex-Editor of the "Bombay Chronicle" was delivered this evening in Lawley Hall, Sir C. P. Ramaswami Iyer presiding.

Mr. Hamid Kasan, Secretary of the Islamic Cultural Association, in introducing the lecture, said that Hindu-Muslim unity could be attained only by knowledge and appreciation of each other's culture and religion.

Sir Ramaswami Iyer observed that the fact that a Hindu had been asked to preside on the occasion was a manifestation of that innate and inrradicable unity that ought to possess the souls of Hindus and Moslems alike, in dealing with each others religion and culture. Out of complete comprehension and perfect sympathy alone should come concord, not only in belief and thought, but action and evolution of ideals, without which India would be a country of mixed, confused labels of two cultures.

Mr. Pickthall said that Islamic civilisation should be understood not only by those who belonged to Islam, but also by others. It did not aim at progress for individuals or groups of individuals, but it aimed at progress for humanity. It accepted the existing conditions as necessary evils, but it commanded men to strive after progress. Progress of humanity, said Mr. Pickthall was the definite and avowed aim of Islamic civilisation.—A. P.

AMUSEMENT IN BOMBAY

PATHE CINEMA:—"The Sporting Lover," starring Conway Tearle, which opened last Saturday at the Royal Opera House, is a fast-moving story of love, horse racing and the war. It moves like a flash. The horse-racing episode, showing the English Derby, is a sheer masterpiece of film photography. It is thrilling. One has an intense impulse to rise to one's feet and cheer.

Conway Tearle plays the role of Captain Terance Connaughton, an Irish army officer who found in the trench life a vacation from his domsetic worries about inherited castles that must be supported without an income and many mortgages and debts which his predecessors passed on to his hands when they entered the great beyond. Wounded, Connaughton finds in his nurse at the field hospital his mate, and they pledge their love, only to be suddenly separated when an aviator drops a bomb on the hospital, burying them under the wreckage from which they are separately rescued and attended.

After the war, broken-hearted, Connaughton returns to Ireland, while Lady Gwendolyn becomes engaged to Sir Phillip Barton, a scoundrel, who had once defrauded Connaughton. Meeting both Lady Gwendolyn and Barton, Connaughton is forced to make the best of the situation and attends, with them, the English Derby, where he sees his horses beaten. Thankfully, too, "The Sporting Lover" brings happiness to the two lovers in an original way.

EXCELSIOR:—A drama of home life, entitled "Black is White," occupies the Excelsior Theatre at such times as Mirovitch and Borissoff are not appearing. It is a story of misunderstandings between a husband and wife, and the ultimate realisation of the former as to his many disabilities. Though a story of every day, it is developed in an unusual manner, and with Dorothy Dalton in the leading role of a wife who remarried her husband although he was unaware of the fact, she has great scope to give of her best with the assistance of a very strong supporting cast. A Madan's Weekly Review topical and a two-part comic, "Sea Legs," are also on the programme. On January 16, commencing at 3-30 p.m., an Indian drama is being staged at the Excelsior.

EMPIRE:—Hardly anyone could have failed to see the Late Rodolph Valentino in "The Sheik," by that popular authoress, Edith M. Hull, so everyone will be anxious to see the same star co-operating with the same authoress to giving us a sequel, "The Son of the Sheik," which is being released at the Empire Theatre during the coming week. Like its predecessor, it is a thrilling tale of the loves and hates of the desert, the love of the son of a big European Sheik for the daughter of a French renegade and the hate of the Moorish lieutenant who had also cast his eyes upon the young dancer. The Sheik wins his bride, but not before he goes through a very terrible ordeal. Valentino as the man of the desert gives a very polished performance, and displays a new side of his abliity as an athlete. Opposite him appears that exotic Hungarian beauty Vilma Banky, while in support there is Agnes Ayres, who appeared opposite Valentino in the first picture and now plays the part of his mother. Others in the cast include George Fawcett, Montague Love, Karl Dane, William Donovan and Bull Montana. The rest of the programme is as interesting as the feature film, for it includes a complete pictorial description of the Viceroy's Cup race in Calcutta, which was won by a Bombay owner with Cap-a-Pie, and a Pathe Gazette.

EMPRESS:—At the Empress Theatre this week, last week's Edward Theatre success, "The Eleventh Hour" is the main attraction. It is a pure and simple thriller, but none the less interesting for that, and all the more exciting. Charles Jones and Shirley Mason take every advantage of the many thrills, which are indeed sufficient to provide material for a series of films instead of only one, and lift the picture out of the ordinary rut. Ben Turpin is the star of the other film on the programme, "Pitfalls of a Big City," which is quite as amusing as its title suggests.

Dr. and Mrs. W. F. Carter lunched at Government House, Bombay, on Saturday.

The Governor of Bombay and Lady Wilson dined with the Right Revd. the Lord Bishop of Bombay and Mrs. Palmer on Saturday.

NEED OF SELF-DEFENCE.

DR. MOONJ E'S APPEAL TO HINDUS,

DACCA, Jan. 16.

Presiding over the Dacca District Hindu Conference to-day, Dr. Moonje said that it was futile for Hindus to talk of Swaraj so long as they were not in a position to protect their women and their places of worship and that no Hindu should think of Swaraj when his regligion was in the melting pot. Dr. Moonje referred to the work done by Swami Shradhanand towards "the creation of Swaraj in Hindu India" and his activities with a view to bring about the removal of untouchability.

He declared that he was not a bloodthirsty man, but he was a believer in the Bhagwat Gita and he believed the doctrine that he should behave towards others in the same way as others behaved towards him. Dr. Moonje asked Hindus to prepare themselves for self-defence in view of the particularly numerous cases of abduction of Hindu women in Eastern Bengal, and expressed his regret that leaders should have been obsessed with the idea of Swaraj without noticing "this great danger".—A. P.

SOONABAI PESTONJI HAKIMJI HIGH SCHOOL.

The Seventh Annual Day of the above High School was celebrated on the 11th inst. In the morning, some athletic feats were performed by the School boys, after which Mr. Narwane exhibited some feats of Lathi. A meeting of the boys was held in the hall of the School, under the Presidentship of Mr. Bhise, the Principal when many of the students addressed the meeting on various aspects of the Institution.

At 3-30 p.m. the residents of Bordi and Gholwad assembled is the School Hall, under the presidentship of Mr.. Ardeshir Kalyaniwala, a Trustee of the School. Then the Report of the last working year, was read by Mr. Bhise.

The Principal then thanked the audience for the kind reception they had given to the report and laid before them some important schemes, which were in view of the Institution for the next year. He requested the rich residents of the place to help such an Institution freely.

HEALTH PROPAGANDA IN RANGOON

RANGOON, Jan. 15.

His Excellency the Governor of Burma opened, last evening, the Public Health Institute bearing his name. In requesting him to do so, Colonel E. Bisset described the functions of the Harcourtt Butler Public Health Institute which, besides serving as a training school for the Public Health Service, as a Provincial public health laboratory and as an institute for research inoo public health, as stated by the Governor when laying the foundation stone in 1924, will serve as a centre for the dissemination of health knowledge, and as a meeting place for the various societies interested in public health propaganda.

The Governor said, "I appeal, and I believe I shall not appeal in vain to those who represent the people, to all who love their country, may I not say, our country, to do something to help to add to the average duration of life, to make that life healthier, and so happier as well as longer, to join hands in this supremely national work for the beautiful land we live in, and the people whose well-being is our hope and desire."—A.P.

AGRICULTURE COMMISSION AT JAMSHEDPUR.

(From Our Correspondent.)

JAMSHEDPUR, Jan. 15.

Marquess Linlithgow and members of the Royal Commission arrived at Jamshedpur by a special train this morning at 8, and were received at the Railway Station by Tata officials and the Deputy Commissioner, Singhbhum. The party after break-fast made a tour round the steel works and inspected the Cokeovens, when they were shown the manufacturing and other processes.

After lunch, the party drove round the town and neighbourhood. They visited the sludge plant where Mr. Temple, the Chief Town Engineer and Administrator explained the system of sewage disposal. Visits were paid to the local hospital and other places. The party leaves by a special train in the evening.

ASSAM-BENGAL RY.

SHILLONG, Jan. 15.

It is understood that, at a meeting of the Advisory Committee of the Assam-Bengal Railway, it was decided that the present management of the Moriani-Jorhat Railway should continue under Government for three months and that Government should call for tenders in the meanwhile.

Mr. Kuladhar Chalika, a prominent Swarajist of the Province it is stated, strongly favours the management of the railway by Government as he thinks that the railway workshop at Jorhat where a number of Indians are trained might be abolished if there were a change in management.—A. P.

DEPRESSED CLASSES CONFERENCES.

DELHI, Jan. 15.

Two Depressed Classes' Conferences will be held this month here under the auspices of the Dalit Udhar Mandal. Dr. B. S. Moonje, M.L.A. will preside over one of the conferences to be held on the 30th and a great inter-caste dinner will be given the same evening.—Free Press.

INDIAN OFFICERS.

LORD GOSCHEN'S TRIBUTE.

MADRAS, Jan. 15.

The annual dinner of the Indian Officers' Association was held to-night at Mohan Vilas. His Excellency the Governor, Patron of the Association, was the chief guest.

Sir C. P. Ramaswami Iyer, in proposing the toast of the Governor, said that his Excellency had shown lively sympathy towards promoting the welfare of Indian officers.

Viscount Goschen, replying to the toast, said that he fully appreciated the zeal and enthusiasm with which the members of the services carried out their duties. Their task was more difficult than that of the services in other countries on account of the various castes and creeds they had to deal with. He had been greatly impressed with the manner in which Indian officers handled situations in times of emergency.—A. P.

ORGANISATION OF LABOUR.

MR. SAKLATWALA CONFERS WITH TRADE UNION CONGRESS MEMBERS'

Mr. Shapurji Saklatwala conferred with the members of the All-India Trade Union Congress now in Bombay and some other labour organisers at the servants of India Society on Sunday morning and discussed with them the ways and means of better organisation of labour in Bombay. Mr. Saklatwalla described the way in which labour was organised in the West, and asked the Trade Unionists to follow those methods.

STRIKE IN EDWARD MILL.

The Workers of the Emperor Edward Mill situated at Reay Road have struck work since Sunday noon. It is alleged that the management all of a sudden asked the operatives of the roving and ring department to stop work as there was over production. The operatives about 2000 in number walked out. This excited the wrath of other operatives who were dissatisfied it is said because their wages had been cut by three pies per one pound of output and because it was alleged that money was forcibly collected from them for a marriage presentation to an official's son and they all left in a body. Some of the operatives, it is alleged, threw stones at the mill premises on Sunday afternoon and did considerable injury to the gate and the office. The police were summoned and every thing was quiet thereafter.

SIR R. SYDNEY GETS DOCTOR OF LAW DEGREE.

RANGOON, Jan. 15.

The following appears in the "Burma Gazttte":—His Excellency the Chancellor is pleased to confer upon the Hon. Sir Robert Sydney Giles, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Rangoon, the degree of Doctor of Law, honores causa, in recognition of the eminent services rendered by him to the cause of education in Burma and to the University of Rangoon. Besides being Vice-Chancellor, Sir Robert Giles is President of the Burma Legislative Council, and it is understood that he will retire from Burma after his term of office expires.—A.P.

FIRE IN RUBY MILLS.

A fire broke out in the Ruby mills, Lady Jamshedjee Road, Dadar on Sunday morning at 11-30 a.m. On receiving a call, the Byculla, Dadar and Mahim fire engines repaired to the spot and extinguished the fire within 30 minutes. The cause of the fire is said to be friction in an opener machine, loose cotton of the value of about Rs. 5,000/- was burnt in the blow room tunnel.

MUNCIPAL BYE-ELECTION.

MR NENSEY RETIRES IN MR. MULRAJ'S FAVOUR.

Mr. Jivraj Nensey writes:—

"I declared my candidature for a seat in the Corporation vacated by Mr. Mathurdas Trikimji. On second thought, however, I realise that, looking to the present Municipal finances it would be better to let my friend, Mr. Mulraj, go in, as his great experience in handling big finances is likely to be of greater utility to the city. I have, therefore, decided to withdraw in Mr. Mulraj's favour, and request all my supporters and voters to vote for Mr. Mulraj."

NATIONAL CITY BANK OF NEW YORK.

The local manager of the National City Bank of New York has received cable advice from his Head Office to the effect that Mr. C. E. Mitchell, the President, reported to shareholders at the Annual General Meeting held on the 11th inst. at New York that the Bank's deposits now amount to C. S. dol. 1,083,599,000 (say Rs. 29799 lacs). The net profit for the year 1926 amounts to dol. 15,800,000 (say Rs. 434 1/8 lacs) of which dol. 8,000,000 (say Rs. 220 lacs) will be utilized in the payment of dividend. the balance to be added to the Contingency Reserve and Undivided profits. The shareholders approved the increase of dol 25,000,000 in Capital, making the total paid-up Capital dol. 75,000,000 (say Rs. 2062 1/2 lacs) and Reserve dol. 50,000,000 (say Rs. 1376 lacs.)

PROSTITUTION IN BOMBAY.

(Continued from Page 10.)

girls back where possible to their own locality. The vast majority of girls in Bombay brothels are upcountry girls and not Bombay residents at all. Meanwhile as stage by stage progress is made for the closing of the tolerated area allowed to exist during the interval —arrangements would have to be also in hand to provide accommodation for the wretched girls who are to be dishoused and to offer them facilities towards a respectable livelihood elsewhere. The accommodation at present available in Rescue Homes in Bombay is glaringly inadequate. Justice calls us to make new provision on a grand scale and it has been suggested that a colony be established in the mofussil where industrial training and quarters could be given on the lines of the women's colony suggested by Mr. Starte in his report on the Beggar Problem and of some of the Criminal Tribes Settlements already in existence.

Lessening the Demand.

Prostitution is, however, a symptom and not a cause of moral disease. No legal action will avail without grappling with the problem both from the social and individual points of view. Suppression of the brothel area is insufficient unless we work for the diminution of the demand hitherto made for its retention. To disperse the poor victims to men's lust from the area will not suffice. Their exploiters must be dealt with too. The Act provides for the penalisation of the worst forms of expicitation by pimps and procurers, and we hope eventually touts and landlords, but what of the male customer demanding illicit wares? The woman merely answers his demand. Side by side with measures for the elimination of the brothel must come active propaganda amongst men to lessen this insidious demand. Social Purity work by men, for men, amongst men is a real and practical need, as without it removal of the supply —without lessening the demand—may only result in driving vice underground and not in limiting its incidence.

Wanted—A Forward Policy.

In conclusion may we press for a more forward policy during the year? The time is ripe for action. The Bombay Vigilance Association is making active headway and has done much to bring the question of the social evil into the foreground. Much remains for it to do, and much will be done with more active public support and co-operation. The Social Hygiene delegation last December did much to open our eyes to the ravages of disease in this city's midst and—as the leader in the "Times" of India" at the conclusion of their visit said —remedies must follow in the train of revelation. The final Conference at the Town Hall emphasised the need of providing great facilities for treating these diseases, the inclusion of social and moral hygiene in in school curricula and the necessity for co-operative action on the part of social, medical and educational agencies but it completely ignored the root cause of the prevalence of the scourge—prostitution and the retention of the tolerated area.

Prevention and cure should go hand in hand, and it is to be hoped that side by side with the measures of reform urged by the Social Hygiene Delegates will come the gradual elimination of the root cause itself —in the suppression of the tolerated area. Only by such measures can the social evil be adequately dealt with and unless radical action is taken it can but make for the eventual ruin of Bombay as it has already proved the ruin of cities, kingdoms and empires in the past.

SENSATIONAL PLOT UNEARTHED.

THREE DEPUTIES ARRESTED

LONDON, Jan. 16.

Warsaw.—Three Deputies belonging to the White Russian Peasant Party have been arrested in connection with the recent discovery of plots throughout Poland against the State. Arrests were carried out without the usual authorisation of the Diet raising parliamentary immunity, as it was alleged, that proofs had been found that they were regularly receiving subsidies amounting to several thousand sterling monthly from the Soviet Government for prepairng the secession movement among White Ruthenians. Swoop made by the police in capital, later, resulted in the arrest of several hundred Communists belonging to all classes, including students, highly placed Civil servants and wealthy business men and the seizure of documents at Communist Headquarters revealing plans which included arrangements for strikes timed for early spring.—Reuter.

RAINFALL IN BENGAL AND BEHAR

SIMLA, Jan. 16.

Yesterday's disturbance over Central India moved eastwards towards Orissa and caused local rain in Chota Nagpur and South-West Bengal with a few falls in Bihar. A few falls occurred in South-East Madras Tinnevelly reports two inches, Burdwan one and a half. The temperature is below normal from the Punjab and the United Provinces to Central India and above it, from Orissa to Mysore.

Forecast:—Extension in Bengal and Assam.—A. P.

HUNGER STRIKE IN JAIL.

REPORTED CAUSE OF ORIGIN

ALLEGATION AGAINST SUPERINTENDENT.

CALCUTTA, Jan. 15.

The "Amrita Bazar Patrika" publishes a lengthy communication from "a gentleman holding prominent position in the public life" who purports to give the version of the Superintendent of Alipur Central Jail in regard to the hunger strike of some of the prisoners detained under Regulation III. According to the Superintendent one of the detenues, Bankim Chatterjee, lost his father and Government allowed him to perform his father's Sraddha ceremony inside the jail. But Bankim insisted on the presence of his relatives as an essential part of the ceremony and refused to perform the ceremony without them. The Brahmin priest who had been specially called in for the purpose when consulted said that the relatives' presence was not essential but desirable. The Superintendent ascertained that three of the other detenues were Bankim's relatives and allowed them to be present. When these arrangements were proceeding, Bankim is said to have abused the Superintendent asked the three detenue-relatives to go back to their cells, as he wanted to keep Bankim apart from them as a disciplinary measure against him for his unbecoming conduct. The three refused to go without Bankim.

On the matter being reported to the Government they were ordered to be detained in separate quarters. As a protest against this the detenues went on hunger strike on 7th and 8th. The other detenues made common cause with them.

ANOTHER VERSION.

According to another version given by the same gentlemen, one of the detenues Bankim did not use any abusive languagae at all, but only spoke loudly as he was very much upset over the Superintendent's attitude regarding the performance of the ceremony. Morover, the Superintendent himself had admitted that he had to use force to detain Bankim in a particular ward on the day of the ceremony. The detenues also complain that they are searched once before and once after their interview with their relatives. They are not satisfied with the arrangement for their food. To-day is the 8th day of the hunger strike and the detenues take nothing but water.—A.P.

LATEST NEWS.

LONDON, Jan. 15.

The Paris.—"Excelsior" states that the negotiations between Steel Cartel and Metallurgical interests of Austria, Hungary, Czecho Slovakia have resulted in an agreement, according to which a quota of 2,100 thousand tons is reported to have been allotted to these states who are expected to join the cartel in February. The negotiations with Britain have not yet come to a conclusion, as Britain demands a quota of 9500,000 tons, whereas the Cartel is not prepared to go beyond eight millions.—Reuter's Special Service.

CALCUTTA, Jan. 16.

At a meeting of the Central Moslem Council Party held this evening, under the presidency of Mr. A. K. Guznavi, resolutions were passed that the party should support the motion of Hon'ble Mr. A. N. Moberly in the Bengal Council tomorrow, for a demand for a grant of the two ministers salaries, with effect from 22nd instant, and that the party should support the candidature of Khan Bahadur Emaduddin for the Deputy Presidentship of the Council.—A. P.

CALCUTTA, Jan. 16.

The brother of Mr. Subash Chandra Bose, the Chief Executive Officer of the Calcutta Corporation, now a detenu in Mandalay, writes to the "Forward" stating that Mr. Subash has lost 45 pounds in weight since his transfer from Berhampur. Mr. Subash Chandra Bose has been getting temperature at nights, and his brother complains that he has not yet been supplied with a copy of the medical examination report. Nor has he received any reply to his offer to send one of his brothers, an eminent physician, to go to Mandalay to see Mr. Subash.—Free Press.

CALCUTTA, Jan. 16.

The "Statesman" says that the police have recovered a document purporting to contain valuable material in the preparation of explosive material during the recent raids carried out by them.—Free Press.

M. L.A. PRISONER'S PLIGHT

NOT ALLOWED TO ATTEND ASSEMBLY SESSIONS.

CALCUTTA, Jan. 16.

Mr. Satyendra Chandra Mitra, a prisoner under the Bengal Ordinance in the Mandalay Jail who has been elected to the Legislative Assembly by the Chittagong cum Rajshahi non-Mahomedan Constituency recently applied to the Government of Bengal for permission to attend the forthcoming meeting of the Assembly. The Associated Press understands that Mr. Mitra has been informed that he cannot be permitted to proceed to Delhi for the purpose of attending the Assembly.—A. P.

"LAST STRONGHOLD LOST"

CANTONESE ARMY REVOLTS.

MEDITERRANEAN FLEET CRUISERS GO TO CHINA.

FIRST CRUISER SQUADRON KEPT READY.

The gravity of the Chinese situation is giving a good deal of anxiety to the British statesmen. It has robbed Sir Austen Chamberlain of his week-end leave and he is forced to be in London to be in closest touch with the Foreign office.

Latest messages report reverses to the Cantonese who have lost their last strong hold in Chekiang by Sun Charan Fang's recapture of Ningpo.

At Foochow students looted and wrecked the Spanish Orphanage, vicarage and church. At Hankow British business is at a standstill, and foreign business is being partially conducted.

The British Admiralty, in a communique, states that the first cruiser squadron has been ordered to be ready to go to China, if necessary.

An Athens message says that five cruisers of the Mediterranean Fleet have been ordered to go to China at once.

BELGIAN REPLY TO BRITISH MEMORANDUM

LONDON, Jan. 16.

In view of the Chinese situation Sir Austen Chamberlain is remaining in London over the week end so as to be in closest touch with the Foreign Office. A meeting of the Cabinet is probable tomorrow. It is reliably stated that the British authorities on the Spot in China—diplomatic, naval and military—have been given wide discretion to deal with any emergency that may arise.—Reuter.

MISSIONARIES LEAVE THE INTERIOR

LONDON, Jan. 16.

Peking.—Hundreds of missionaries are pouring to the coast from the interior.—Reuter.

JOINT DECLARATION OF POLICY PREMATURE.

LONDON, Jan. 16.

Hague.—The Government, in reply to British memorandum on China says it is prepared to go as far as possible in satisfying the Chinese aspirations. While agreeing with the British Government with regard to sur-taxes, and generally with the British viewpoint, it considers that the suggested joint declaration of policy should be deferred, until the situation in China becomes less involved.—Reuter.

MEDITERRANEAN FLEET CRUISERS GO TO CHINA.

LONDON, Jan. 15.

Athens.—Five cruisers of the Mediterranean Fleet at present anchored in Phaleron Bay have been ordered to proceed to China forthwith.—Reuter.

LONDON, Jan. 15.

An Admiralty communique says that the first cruiser squadron has been ordered to stand by in readiness to proceed to China if so required. It consists of the flagship "Frobisher," 9860 tons, whose main armament is 7.5 inch guns, "Danae,55 "Dragon," "Dauntless" and "Delhi" 4,650 tons each, whose main armament is 6.6 inch guns. No official statement regarding the order could be obtained in London tonight.—Reuter.

LONDON, Jan. 16.

Athens.—Cruisers Frobisher, Danae, Delhi, Coventry and Dauntless have left for China. It is authoritatively learnt that five cruisers which have left Athens are probably proceeding to Malta to pick up stores in accordance with order to stand by in readiness to proceed to China if required. —Reuter.

THEIR LAST STRONGHOLD LOST

Shanghai.—The Cantonese have lost their last stronghold in Chekiang by Sun Chuan Fang's recapture of Ningpo. The defeated men are retreating in the direction of Fukien.—Reuter.

REVOLT OF CANTONESE ARMY

SOLDIERS REFUSE TO MOVE ON.

HANKOW, Jan. 15.

Continued standstill of British banks and business here is having all the effects of boycott against Cantonese. With the approach of the Chinese New Year on February 2nd, when all Chinese financial settlements are made and with troops in several provinces clamouring for pay, Cantonese are realising that it is matter of life and death for them to do their utmost to persuade or force British firms particularly banks to resume business. The seriousness of the position owing to lack of money can hardly be exaggerated. Portions of the Cantonese Army in Kiangsi have revolted and troops from Canton are refusing to move on to Shanghai unless they are given one month's pay out of 6 month's arrears. Cantonese soldiers are refusing to help to suppress anti-Kuomintang societies which are springing up here and there unless they are paid. Opponents of Kuomintang are posting up lampoons alongside Government propaganda and authorities are offering rewards for the capture of the offenders. It is even rumoured that the plan to make Hankow, the seat of the Southern Governments has been abandoned in favour of Nanking.—Reuter.

BRITISH AUTHORITIES IN CHINA.

TRIBUTES TO THEIR RESTRAINT & DISCRETION

RUGBY, Jan. 15.

Warm tribute to the restraint and discretion shown by the British authorities and troops under their command during the recent difficult situation in Hankow continue to appear in the press. Mr. Ramsay Macdonald, leader of the Labour Party, writes in the journal "Forward":

"One has nothing but the deepest gratitude and highest admiration for the men who controlled themselves—diplomatists and marines alike. Nothing could justify our authorities if they simply walked away from the Settlements which the past Chinese Governments have allowed us to control, and where our people have taken up their abode under the security which they believed that the treaties gave them.

AGREEMENT NEEDED.

We must have an agreement and during its negotiation ordinary precautions for safety must be taken. I think the past should be liquidated because it is past. We are now at a late hour prepared for it. But it is good neither for China nor for us that the liquidation should be done by riotous crowds. If conflict is as inevitable as tomorrow's sunrise then we shall not be blamed. In any event this is clear. The Canton Government is responsible for the crowd that packed itself on the barriers of the British Concession at Hankow, and if there was any bloodshed in consequence—failing aggression on the part of the marines which no one seems to allege so far as I have yet seen the authority that failed to control the crowd is to be blamed.

HANKOW GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY.

If the Government uses the crowd like the Hankow crowd for its own purposes it must not be mealy-mouthed as to the consequences. If the crowd has got the upper hand in spite of the Government's efforts it is that Government that must shoulder the responsibility. I hold that the concessions should pass under the control of the Chinese Government. But is that the purpose of the agitation? If it is why do the French and Japanese Concessions remain? When posters appeared on the walls of the British Concession after the evacuation they appear to have been not expressions of the Chinese Nationalism but of the anti-British hatred.

SHOULD THEY VACATE?

What is any Government to do under those circumstances At the moment the issues are less in our hands than in those of the Canton Government. But the question remains: Are we to be allowed to liquidate in peace? I say peace and I hope the Canton Foreign Minister will play up to that policy."—B. O. W.

PANIC IN FOOCHOW.

MOB ATTACKS SPANISH ORPHANAGE.

LONDON, Jan. 15.

Foochow.—A mob of students representing Fukien Students' Union, to-day looted and wrecked the Spanish Dominican Orphanage, vicarage and church and drove out Spanish sisters and abducted some of the Chinese orphan girls. The sisters and priests except the Bishop are leaving Foochow. Although 40,000 Cantonese troops are occupying the city no steps were taken to prevent outrage.—Reuter.

MINOR INCIDENTS AT HANKOW.

RUGBY, Jan. 15.

Admiral Sir Reginald Tyrwhitt, Commander-in-Chief of the Briish Naval Forces in China reached Nanking yesterday abroad the destroyer "Veteran" and transferred to the gunboat "Gnat" in which he is proceeding to Hankow. Latest Hankow reports state that little change has occurred there during the last few days. Up to last night orderly conditions prevailed but practically no business was being done by the British and other foreigners within the British Concession, while in French and Japanese Concessions and in special areas only slight business was proceeding.

Barricades in the Japanese Concession were demolished by the demonstrators and thos ein the French Concession have also been removed. There have been occasional minor incidents in all Concessions for example maltreatment of Belgian Consul as already reported. An automobile owned by a German was taken from the American garage in the French Concession supposedly by Chinese soldiers. On instructions from Rear Admiral Cameron, Commonding British naval vessels off Hankow British male civilians who number 170 are still accommodated in the Asiatic Petroleum Company's premises on the river front. This building adjoins the British Consulate which insidentally continued to be occupied by the Consul-General and his staff during the recent disturbances.

CONDITIONS IN HONKOW.

Further details of those disturbances indicate that the situation was complicated by the fact that many British men, women and children were in the residential special areas of Hankow, Wuchung and elsewhere outside the British Concession when demonstrations began on January 3rd. On January 4th a naval contingent which with volunteers and police had untill then kept the mob outside the Concession was withdrawn to vessels under arrangement with Chinese authorities whereby the latter undertook to guard part of the Concessions boundary with their troops. During this critical period naval forces were ready for action on pontoons and vessels in the river in case British subjects or property suffered injury. Actually very little looting occurred and only slight damage was caused in the municipal office and police stations which were apparently the only buildings entered by the mob.

It is understood that the Governments concerned are in touch regarding the defence of International interests at Shanghai should they be threatened.

The "Times", the "Daily Mail", the "Daily Express", the "Yorkshire Post" and other leading Conservative journals and the whole Liberal Press in commenting on the events at Hankow express admiration for the discretion and self-control shown in extremely trying circumstances by the local British authorities and the forces at their disposal. These comments are accompanied by an expression of opinion that all possible measures should be taken by the British and other Governments concerned to secure the International Settlement at Shanghai from any manifestations of mob violence.—B. O. W.

DEFENCE OF FOREIGN SETTLEMENTS IN CHINA.

LONDON, Jan. 14.

Reuter learns that competent quarters in London duly considered the views on the present situation expressed by the British communities in China but the importance of the Cabinet's recent meeting should not be over-emphasised and reports that the Cabinet reached a decision regarding the defence of Shanghai can be discounted. Nevertheless the international authorities concerned will do their utmost to defend the foreign settlements in Shanghai if threatened by mob violence. It is emphasised that Britain, while she does not intend in any way to interfere with [illegible] Chinese politics, will use every means in her power to protect the lives and properties of British nationals.

A telegram from Mr. O'Malley from Hankow was received this evening recording the events of the 3rd and 4th January reviewing the existing situation from the material viewpoint, and stating that about 170 British civilians are still in the Asiatic Petroleum Company's building under the discipline of ships in the harbour a hundred yards away. British business has been brought to a standstill and foreign business is being partially conducted.—Reuter.

BELGIAN REPLY TO BRITISH MEMORANDUM.

LONDON, Jan 14.

Brussels.—The Belgian reply to British memorandum on China handed to the British Ambassador at Brussels on the 11th January completely share the opinion of the British Government that it is impossible to refuse complete sympathy with the national movement in China. The Belgian Government while confirming its adhesion to the immediate and unconditional granting of the Washington surtaxes and British suggestions as regards extra-territoriality is of opinion that the collective declaration suggested in the British memorandum with regard to the policy to be followed towards China by the signatories of the Washington treaty is at present neither opportune nor possible. Several powers have already rejected the proposal.

Moreover it is to be feared, with the present frame of mind of China that collective declaration, however, wide and liberal, will create more distrust than satisfaction. Anyway, it will give rise to erroneous interpretations. Belgium, however, wishes that in the establishment of a Government in China with authority to speak in the name of the Sovereign unitd Chinese people, Chinese national aspirations should receive the greatest possible degree of satisfaction by means of agreements willingly reached which at the same time would as sure all foreigners of the same treatment and same guarantees.—Reuter.

ARRIVAL OF U. S. ADMIRAL.

LONDON, Jan. 14.

No material change is reported in the Chinese situation. At Shanghai the arrival of the United States Admiral Williams on Flag-ship "Pittsburgh" has raised the foreign naval strength at Yangtse mouth. The Municipal Council of the International Settlement on which Britain, America, and Japan are represented have speedily controlled the few cases of disorder that agitators have so far been able to create among the Chinese workers. The moderate Chinese are also doing their best to maintain order and the Chinese commercial community are clearly desirous of overcoming the economic consequences of the existing conditions particularly with the approach of the Chinese new year settling day on February 2nd.—B. O. W.

BABY WEEK AT AKALKOT.

A SUCCESSFUL FUNCTION.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

AKALKOT, Jan. 13.

Akalkot celebrated Baby Week this year for the first time. The show was held in a big enclosure on the Maidan overlooking the new palace and commanded a very beautiful view. The Dowager Ranisaheb who was the moving spirit of the whole organization spared no pains to make it a success. State officials and leading citizens of the place took part in the organization of the show. There were stalls on maternity homes, distribution of milk modern illustrating the evils of drink were arranged in different tents. There were cinema shows and magic lantern lectures on all the days.

The function was opened in the afternoon of the 10th instant by Mr. H. R. Gould, Collector of Sholapur. In opening the show, Mr. Gould explained the objects of the Baby Wek movement and brought home to the people the educative value of this propaganda and exhorted them to make it an annual function.

Mr. G. K. Deodhar, the Hon. Provincial Secretary of the National Baby Week, who had specially come down from Bombay for this show delivered a lecture on the objects of the Baby Week movement. He particularly mentioned that the most important thing in any country was a society composed of strong and healthy citizens.

Dr. Tipnis, the lady doctor from the Civil Hospital, Sholapur, delivered lectures on two days on maternity and child welfare which were attended by a large number of women, who appreciated the object very much. Mr. Krishnabai Kantikkar, of the Poona Seva Sadan spoke on "Maternity and Infant Welfare" and on public and personal health. She compared the work done in this direction in Western Countries like England, Holland, Belgium, Germany and also in New Zealand, and explained how in these countries maternal and infant mortality was reduced to a low percentage by means of Infant Welfare Centres, Maternity Homes, nurseries, etc. She particularly requested mothers to take particular interest in rearing up the babies.

Over 40 babies were examined by a Committee of doctors and prizes were distributed to twelve of the best babies on the [illegible]

LABOURS REWARDED!

The Bombay Back Bay Reclamation Committee's report has been issued and the Committee is thanked by the Government of India for the expeditious and thorough manner in which it conducted its enquiry.

BOMBAY CITY AND SUBURBS.

TUESDAY, Jan. 18.

Governor Visits Ghatkopar Jivdaya Khata, 4-45 p.m., and opens Camping ground for Scouts at 5-30 p.m.

Journalists' Association Meeting, Bakehouse Lane, 6 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 19.

Municipal A. Ward bye-election, Skating Rink, Fort.

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCE.

DEATH.

PETIT—Bai Hirabai, widow of the late Jamsetjee Nusserwanjee Petit and daughter of the late Sir Dinshaw Manockjee Petit, 1st Bart., died yesterday morning at her residence 'Kenilworth,' Pedder Road. Funeral to-day at 8 a.m. (S. T.).

DR. GULAMALLY'S EYE HOSPITAL.

At Dr. Gulamally's Eye Hospital, Kalbadevi Road, Bombay, total attendance of different nationalities in December last was 850, males being 720 and 130 females.

YOUTH LODGE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY.

Mrs. Rukmini Arundale will address the members of the Youth Lodge to-day (Monday) at 6-15 p.m. (S. T.) at the Bombay Students' Brotherhood Hall, French Bridge, Chowpatty.

INDIAN SEAMEN'S UNION.

A general meeting of the Indian Seamen's Union will be held at 4 p.m. at the Union Hall, Keshavji Buildings Carnac Bridge. Mr. Shapurji Saklatwala, M.P., will attend.

PASSENGERS AND TRAFFIC RELIEF ASSOCIATION.

At meeting of the Suburban Railway Advisory Committee of the Passengers' and Traffic Relief Association, will be held at its office at 139, Medows Stree, Fort, Bombay, to-day (Monday) at 6 p.m. (S. T.).

GOVERNOR VISITS GHATKOPAR JIVDAYA KHATA.

H. E. the Governor of Bombay, the Hon. Sir C. V. Mehta, Kt., and the Hon. Dr. Paranjpe will pay a visit to th eabove institution to-morrow (18th instant) at 4-45 p.m. (S. T.).

CITY'S MORTALITY.

Statement showing the total mortality from 6 a.m. of 14h January, 1927, to 6 a.m. of 15th January, 1927:—Small pox attacks 5, deaths 2; Cholera attack nil, death nil; Plague attack nil, death nil; Influenza attack nil, death nil; Total mortality (exclusive of Stillborn) 75; Total mortality this day llas year was 74.

SIR D. M. PETIT GYMNASTIC INSTITUTION.

The following gentlemen have been appointed honorary office-bearers of the above institution:—

Chairman, Sir Dinshaw Petit, Bart.; Treasurer, Mr. Ardesir E. Dalal; Secretary, Mr. K. J. Dubash, Solicitor; Superintendent, Mr. N. M. Moherty.

SIR LESLIE WILSON'S HOSPITAL FUND.

The total donations received by the above Hospital now amount to Rs. 6,20,891-8-5. The amount of the donations promised but not received stands at Rs. 55,000.

The Hospital Fund is in need of all the money it can secure and all donations, small as well as large, will be thankfully received by the Hony. Treasurer, Mr. N. B. Saklatwala, Bombay House, Bruce Street, Fort, Bombay.

BOMBAY HUMANITARIAN LEAGUE.

Results for the 3rd and 4th year College students of Arts, Science and Commerce of Bombay Presidency (as per Scheme No. 58) are announced below:—

Mr. M. N. Mehta Rs. 50; Mr. Rao V. K. R. V. Rs. 40; Mr. N. V. Gokhale Rs. 30; Mr. D. P. Ubharjakar Rs. 20; Mr. M. M. Patkar Rs. 10; Mr. Kim R. Madhav 1st certificate of merit; Mr. A. V. Desai, 2nd certificate of merit; Mr. S. C. C. Vakil, 3rd certificate of merit; Mr. N. V. Tembe, 5th certificate of merit; Mr. K. S. Thakore, 6th certificate of merit.

The date of giving away of the prizes will be announced later on.

PEOPLE'S FREE HOSPITAL.

In the quarterly report, for the period ended 31st December, 1926, of the above hospital it is stated:—

"The Hospital has both an out-patients department and an in-patients accommodation of over thirty-five beds. Total number of patients treated in the In-patient department in the quarter ending December, 1926, was 119, out of which 93 were males and 26 were females. By caste:—Hindoos 79, Mohamadans 19, Jews 4, and Christians 4. The average stay of the patient in the Hospital was 13 days. The shortest stay in the Hospital was one day and longest stay 101 days.

BAND AT SIR P. M. MEHTA GARDENS.

The band of the 1st Bn. G. I. P. Railway Regiment, A. F. I., will play the following programme of music at the Sir Phirozshah M. Mehta Gardens to-day (Monday), at 5-30 p.m. (S. T.):—

The following is the programme:—(1) March "Serarhine" Clarke; (2) Valsette "Wood Nymphs" Eric Coates; (3) Selection "Madame Pompadour" Leo Fall; (4) Song "My Irish Home Sweet Home" Hanley; (5) Selection of English Airs "The Rose" Middleton; (6) Selection "Lady be Good" Gorshwin; (7) Intermezzo "Eleanore" Ochantrier; (8) Idylle "The Glow Worm" Lincke; (9) Finale "The Commanito"

QUESTIONS FOR PROF. WADIA

To the Editor of "The Chronicle".

Sir,—In your issue of the 5th instant there is a letter from Prof. Wadia in which he says he was waiting for the "effusions" of Mr. Madon after his questions had been categorically answered. Will you allow me to point out that my questions have not been categorically answered? One of my questions was—"what was the standard measure of value since the closing of the mints? and Prof. Wadia's reply was that it was token rupee.

This is really no reply, because a token cannot be a standard measure of value. The measure of value would be the thing that this token stood for. I invite Prof. Wadia to say what this token rupee stood for. It can do only two things—stand for a certain amount of silver or a particular amount of gold. Let Prof. Wadia say which it was.

My next question was—"should any standard measure be changed without due provision for correct fulfilment of all contracts in the particular measure that had been superseded?" His reply to this is also evasive. He says that the relation of the standard coin to the rupee should be 15 to 1, and that this will provide for correct fulfilment of all contracts in the particular measure that had been superseded. I call this reply evasive, because he does not say categorically that provision for correct fulfilment is an essential thing, in other words he does not say categorically whether he is for respecting the sanctity of all contracts. I would ask him to now say categorically whether he considers that sanctity of contracts should be preserved at all costs, or whether he considers that the terms of a contract can be lightly varied whenever it suits one of the parties to do so. Prof. Wadia tells us that 15 to 1 will provide for correct fulfilment of all contracts. This, ipso facto, implies that making it 20 to 1 or 10 to 1 will not provide for such correct fulfilment. Is Prof. Wadia ready to insist that it should be 15 to 1 and 15 to 1 only?

While Prof. Wadia talks of my "effusions", I am surprised at a statement of his in the same letter, in which he talks of the issue being "whether we are to remain on a silver basis" or not. Does Prof. Wadia seriously mean to say that we were on a Silver basis during the period 1900-1914? Does he mean to say that prices of commodities in this period were in terms of silver? If he does, then I leave it to students of the subject to say what they think of his knowledge of Currency questions. To my mind, Prof. Wadia by the above statement shows that he does not understand the very fundamentals of the question, and to discuss it further with him would be a sheer waste of time.—Yours, etc.

B. F. MADON.

Bombay, Jan. 15.

A RADIO SENSATION.

MADRAS PROGRAMME HEARD IN CALIFORNIA.

MADRAS, Jan. 15.

The Madras Presidency Radio Club has received a letter from a resident of San Pedro, California, announcing the reception of its broadcast programme in that city and has asked for confirmatory particulars.—A. P.

NORTHERN INDIA v. M. C. C.

KARACHI, Jan. 15.

Messrs. C. P. Rubie, Ghulam Mahomed and Naoolal have been selected from Karachi to play for the Northern India eleven against the M.C.C. at Delhi on February 22nd, 23rd and 24th. Mr. C. B. Rubie will captain the Northern India Eleven.

Mr. Ghulam Mahomed has been selected by His Highness the Maharaja of Bhopal to play for the Aligarh cricket team eleven against the M.C.C.—A. P.

HONOUR TO POONA CRICKETERS.

A requisition signed by no less than four hundred citizens of Poona, including ladies and gentlemen, representing various professions, communities and creeds, has been made to the local municipality calling upon it to take early action in conferring honour on Prof. D. B. Deodhar, M.A., and Mr. J. G. Navle, the two well-known Poona cricketers by presenting them with Municipal addresses and behalf of the Poona public. Among the prominent signatories to this requisition, there are names of two elected members of the Legislative Council, three Principals of Colleges, and six Municipal Councillors.

FATAL FALL FROM A BUILDING

Kalya Govind (18), a boy in the employ of John Edward Tattessal an Electrical Engineer in the G. I. P. Ry. residing on the 4th floor of Amrit Building, Ballard Estate fell down from the window of the bath room of his master's flat accidentally on Saturday evening and was seriously injured. His ribs and bones of the legs were fractured and he was removed to the G. T. Hospital where he died the same night of shock and haemorrhage following the multiple injuries received by him.

An inquest held by the city Coroner on Sunday the Jury recorded a [illegible] of death by accidental fall [illegible]

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The Bombay Chronicle.

MONDAY, JANUARY 17, 1927.

LLOYD'S FOLLY AGAIN.

The report of the Back Bay Committee will be received with mixed feelings by the public of Bombay because, while the facts relating to the inception of this mad enterprise,—which will deservedly go down to history *pace* his Committee as "Lloyd's Folly"—have been carefully examined and stated, the apportionment of blame for the infliction of crores of rupees worth of damage on the city and the Presidency of Bombay is most unsatisfactory. But it is the Committee's recommendations for the future which will evoke the strongest opposition of every true publicist who desires the welfare of the community. We shall deal with these recommendations on a subsequent occasion and point out how once more public funds have been wasted by what was made to appear, when it was appointed, a well-balanced and con- has turned out to be a mere whitewashing effort on the part of Government to save their own face and the skin of their muddling henchmen. The facts about the Back Bay misadventure, which are revealed in the Committee's report, indicate that Lord Lloyd is now sheltering himself behind the generous intentions of the late Mr. Montagu, who desired housing conditions in Bombay to be improved, and was prepared to support any action in that direction. What action should be taken was left to the man on the spot, and the man on the spot bungled badly. The undue haste with which things were desired to be done, has not been denied and is undoubtedly at the bottom of the selection of the second best expert, as even in the United Kingdom for an enterprise of this magnitude the Secretary of State could not guarantee successful search for an expert within the two or three weeks, which were given to him. Nor is the secrecy in which these transactions were hatched, disproved. On the contrary, it is shown that not only were the public kept in the dark, but Government departments and public bodies, like the Bombay Port Trust and the Royal Indian Marine, had no notion of what was being done. The papers entrusted to the expert found by the Government of Sir George Lloyd must have been incomplete. If that was not so, how could he come to recommend dredgers of the type of "Kalu" and "Jinga," on the imperfect working of which the Port Trust had already prepared a printed publication? Even if he had, made such recommendations, was there no one in the Government of Bombay sufficiently well-informed and attentive to public duties, to point out this discrepancy? Going further, after the report was received from Sir George Buchanan, the order for the dredger was placed prematurely. The specifications for the same were not carefully examined and the manufacturers had obviously safeguarded themselves by the description of material as soft instead of hard clay. We can only say that the softness of the official brain which swallowed these specifications is only surpassed by the laxity of those who had administrative control of this programme when it was launched out. Since the late Governor had repeatedly explained that he and he alone was looking after this, the public must hold him responsible for what has occurred. Even the Mears Committee, with manifest desire to shield Lord Lloyd, who bullied them into good behaviour on some occasions, have had to express surprise, where they should have expressed censure, at the omissions of a man with a determination and penetrating intelligence; but they go out of their way to explain his intentions. The mistakes and crimes of the great have been covered up in the past in the history of mankind under the cloak of laudable motives. But what were the motives of those who started this enterprise, for which neither the Mears Committee nor anyone could get any proof? As the Koran says: God alone can know the heart of the hypocrite. Though signs are not wanting of the restraint imposed on this Committee by their age, experience or expectations of further official preferment—which apparently prevented them from saying it in so many words—even they have not been able to save Lord Lloyd from the obloquy which would go to an administrator for culpable negligence, if their report were read between the lines.

In the origin and the launching out of the programme, it would appear that every step that was taken was wrong, while even one right step would have saved the situation. The Government of India were certainly not given full facts and their own scrutiny of the facts that were given was defective. Everybody was out to do great things and carried away by his own ambitions, was not scrupulous enough to avoid exaggerating the results anticipated from the programme. This original vice became crystallized into a regular practice in the progress of the work. Men who were appointed to do the work did not know what thy had to do, and while Lawless Hepper thought it was the business of Buchanan and Lewis, Buchanan thought it was the business of Lawless Hepper; and we are asked to believe that all this went on until the Mears Committee came on the scene—which is certainly scandalous. In the meanwhile, the public was being kept in the dark and dust was being thrown into its eyes by reports, which, it is now acknowledged, were misleading and "concealed material circumstances." The respect which the Development Department as a whole has been able to evoke in the mind of the Mears Committee, can be judged from the fact that in dealing with the future, they say: "We regard this estimate, like others put forward by the same authority (Development Department), with distrust." The Mears Committee, undoubtedly very friendly to the Hon. Mr. Cowasji Jehangir, has anticipated the next question charge of this Department doing at least concerning the reports? We are told that Mr. Cowasji Jehangir "must have found it difficult to get exact information." Are we to believe that if the scandalous state of affairs, the errors and miscalculations had not been brought to light by Mr. Manu Subedar in his very able report, the Development scandal would have gone on for years together, while Government in the person of Mr. Cowasji Jehangir were still trying to get information? The incompetence and inefficiency, of every one associated at the top with this enterprise since it was launched out and while it was being run, deserves a greater condemnation than it has received at the hands of the Mears Committee, and would also have secured a different set of recommendations from them, had they not been over-anxious, as is evident from many places in their report, to minimise the guilt of the officials and to conceal the inherent financial and general failure with which Lloyd's Folly is indubitably stamped. Nothing is more conclusive of this attitude on their part than the judgment of Solomon, which they have delivered with regard to the allegation of dishonesty on the part of officials. Corruption is not seldom the twin-sister of incompetence; and where inefficiency was rampant to the degree to which it is revealed even in the cautious document now made public, it is not conclusively proved that a closer examination of papers would not have brought to light serious over-payments, discrepancies etc. The allegation made by Mr. Manu Subedar that the accounts were not kept in a proper manner has not ben denied, but the examination of additional papers, which he wanted, and the sort of investigation, which he had suggested have certainly not been carried out. On the contrary, the Committee assumed in this regard the attitude, not of financial investigators or auditors charged with the close examination of departmental and other records, but of judges waiting to hear an accusation and to examine the proofs, if any one was willing to put them forward, and when no one came forward, they have come to the conclusion ("sic") that "as far as our enquiries into the affairs of the Back Bay scheme have gone, there has not been the slightest evidence brought forward that these ugly rumours have any foundation in fact." There is no evidence in the report to convince the public that their inquiries have gone far enough and that they have not made those invitations to the public with their tongue in their cheek, since it is not possible in human nature to expect that those who profit by corruption would come forward with accusation or evidence. Nor can members of the public, who have no access to official records any more than they have access to the records of any private business office, prove anything, since most proofs require documentary evidence.

If ever there was a fiasco of public enquiry, it is the Mears Committee. That it was constituted very carefully after anxious official consideration is evident, but the Government of Bombay, at whose instance and in agreement with whom the Government of India appointed this Committee, must have obviously formulated the programme which has now come to fruition. The Back Bay affair is, however, a running sore. More money is being spent and a lot more money is being lost than what is being spent. More errors are being made to throw into shade the errors of the past and no lessons have yet been learnt either from the losses which are already incurred or from the appointment of numerous committees, all of them with the sole desire to minimise the blame for the past and to avoid the only sane course, namely, stoppage of further operations. By going on spending further money for the next four years even after the hopelessly bankrupt position of the Development Departmnt as a whole and of the Back Bay Scheme in particular, has been disclosed, the Government will have incurred a very heavy responsibility, as we shall show hereafter, since they are under a delusion themselves and are trying to delude the public that by a complete stoppage, after plot 8 is handed to the Military Department a much larger sum would be lost to-day than what would be lost if work is continued after some time, and therefore the scheme must be carried on. In other words the gambler hopes for a turn of the tide but will he commit suicide if the turn does not come or try and make up by passing some part of the burden on the Corporation, that is, on the rate-payers and the rest on the unresisting shoulders of the general tax-payers? The greatest blot on the Mears Committee's judgment, which has proved them inimical to the highest interests of the tax-payers and the public of the city, is their belief that the complete reclamation as launched out by Sir George Lloyd would at any time prove to be financially successful. If that were not so, they would not say that "the two lay-outs should be made to fit into one another so that whatever development is now carried out may ultimately form part of the entire scheme and in furthering its intentions." What the public would like to feel is that the scheme of Back Bay reclamation is dead and dead persons are not measured

NOTES OF THE DAY.

"China's Triumph."

The "Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung," one of the most influential of the Berlin papers, subjects the present critical situation in China to a penetrating analysis in a recent issue under the caption "China's Triumph." The journed remarks that it has always held that what China demands for securing a stable Government was either a strong Dictatorship or a strong broad-based nationalism. It congratulates China upon having developed the latter and in ironical comment refers to "the wonderful discipline of the English Press," to which only a short while ago China was full of Bolshevism but in whose columns the word Bolshevism is now struck out and has been replaced by nationalism. Germany, Russia and "other smaller Powers," the "Allgemeine" says, have already agreed to forego their special concessions and rights which offend Chinese Nationalism so much. England alone presents a stubborn attitude; but let it be noted, the Berlin paper points out, that Mr. Miles Lampson on his arrival in China did not go to Peking but in that "lion's mouth" Canton, Republican China, it remarks, has indeed, triumphed.

Love for Both.

In a spirited address on Saturday Mr. Shapurji Saklatwala warned his countrymen not to be mendicants but to win Swaraj through self-effort. He gave the lie to the statement so often made in the Tory Press in England, that he was an enemy of the English by his emphatic declaration: "I was born in Bombay and my children were born in England and, therefore, I have love and respect for both the countries." It is this love for both which prompts him to fight a continuous battle for the British working classes in Parliament and outside against the inroads of Imperialism in close alliance with Capitalism for their liberty and happiness. Mr. Saklatwala devoted the main portion of a powerful speech to a severe indictment of this Imperialism which comes in the way of every country realising its freedom. The only way to fight it and to conquer it was to organise the masses, the tolling millions who labour and strive to seek their general welfare.

The Oligarchs.

Mr. Saklatwala gave the vast audience in Sir Cawasji Jehangir Hall an idea of how the welfare of the masses is being looked after in England, the land to which we send button-holing deputations to secure justice for us. He told them, how in Britain 35 millions out of 45, the total population of the country, were trying to get justice but had not got it yet. His experience of democratic institutions as they were worked in Britain was that only on one day in four years, when the general elections were held, one felt that there was democracy in the land, otherwise the country was in the hands of "an oligarchy of 30 Cabinet Ministers, backed and supported by bankers and financiers." And what is being really done in England while the governing classes glibly talk of democratic rule? Mr. Lansbury, Mr. Saklatwala's comrade in his mission, in a recent issue of his paper tells us: "Chemists and scientists work day and night in an endeavour to discover how quickly they may slaughter whole populations." The mass of humanity, he says, have no time to discover how to live; they are only learning how to die. Unless workers all over the world unite, there is, indeed, no hope of getting out of this vicious cycle of armed peace followed by devastating wars.

A Growing Danger.

Mahatma Gandhi walked two miles in his tour of the Behar coal fields area to meet the poor villagers anxious to see him. What a contrast this energy, this devotion to the humble and the poor, represent to the attitude of some of our politicians whose comfort-loving habits make it impossible for them to undertake propaganda work in rural areas though they are quite willing to orate on "village reconstruction" to urban gatherings. In his reply to the address of welcome by the Dhanbad Municipality, Gandhiji referred to the tendency of educated men to cut off all their connection with villages. This is a growing danger and must be warded off by the establishment, amongst other measures, of agricultural farms in the districts under University auspices to which the town-bred youth in our colleges can go during their vacations and learn to come in contact with the life of the ordinary villager. The present disbelief in the potency of the charkha as an economic weapon on the part of many young men in towns is wholly due to their ignorance of village needs and habits.

Callous.

The prisoners, detained in Alipur Central Jail, Calcutta, under the notorious Regulation III, who have gone on hunger strike have, indeed, very good ground to do so as such a strike is the only weapon they possess to compel attention to their helpless condition. The Jail Superintendent's version and that of the detenues regarding the incidents which led to the strike indicate clearly one thing, and that is the utter callousness towards the feelings of the detenues which jail officialdom displays. The Superintendent admits that he had to use force to detain one of the unfortunate victims of Regulation III in a particular ward on the day when this detenu had to perform a ceremony very important in the eyes of every devout Hindu. Mr. Bankim Chatterjee, the detenu, loses his father and the Government graciously allow him to perfom the "Shraddha" ceremony within the jail. For this ordinary courtesy the Superintendent seems to take great credit to himself in his version; but the intolerable restrictions he put upon the permission given for the ceremony were such that no self-respecting person could have long withstood the mental torture inflicted upon him under the vexatious official conduct. The fabric of British Rule in India would not have crumbled down if Mr. Bankim Chatterjee had been allowed to perform the sad ceremony in the presence of such relatives as he desired to be present. But an irremovable and irresponsible bureaucracy holds Indian sentiment very cheap and Mr. Bankim's suffering is another example of official contempt for it.

PROSTITUTION IN BOMBAY.

SUGGESTED REMEDIES.

BY MISS M K. DAVIS.

II

Reference was made in the first article to the ridiculously inefficient legislation to check the evil of prostitution in Bombay. A forward policy of reform imperatively calls for adoption. Much more could be done even under the present bad conditions with an increased police force and it is to be hoped that, in the near future, a substantial increase will be made for the effective working of the Act. Again it is hoped that more use may be made under the Foreigners Act to exclude foreign girls from entering the city for immoral purposes. The application of this Act in particular cases rests on Government as well as on police and nothing can be done without close co-operation between the two—which in one case in particular during the past year was found to be lamentably lacking. It would appear that the clever uses employed by many girls coming to Bombay for such purposes—such as temporary residence in a fashionable hotel, the cloak of a bogus profession, the pretence of a married status—could be discovered, were increased powers given to the police and a more determined attitude maintained by Government.

Enforce The Children Act.

Another vital step is the immediate operation of the Bombay Children's Act of 1924. Only when the Act is enforced can children be compulsorily removed from brothels and it is hoped that public funds and support will be forthcoming to enable the Children's Aid Society to provide some of the necessary machinery for the early operation of the Act. Turning to the Prostitution Act itself, further amendment is needed. Reference to the debates in the Legislative Council of 1923 reveal the fact that the limitations of Government and the bill approved of only as a temporary measure. As the Home Member put it, it was but "the 'preliminary' attack on commercialised vice". The question of extending it to include the suppression of brothels was raised in the last stages of debate. As further amendment of the bill as then drafted necessitated reference to the Government of India for sanction and, therefore, further delay, it was decided to pass the bill as it now is and leave the brothel quarters to be dealt with by amendment in a later session.

Wholesale Suppression of Brothels.

Four years have now elapsed and the question of suppressing brothels has 'not' been raised. Radical amendment on this point is needed and it has been suggested that such an amendment might be passed declaring all brothels illegal and fixing a time limit of 5 years within which they were to close down. During the interval Government should be empowered to attack the problem of suppression sectionally. So mighty a task can only be done by degrees. A series of amending bills would grapple with it by stages. First all foreign girls could be repatriated. It should be noted that according to international agreement Japan is ready to repatriate Japanese girls in foreign brothels but no steps have yet been taken to do so in Bombay. Then brothels could be removed from tramways—from main roads—from positions of proximity to schools, churches and respectable institutions. A third stage could be reached by the Sanitary Authority compelling the closing down of the most insanitary brothels. Fourthly steps might be taken for drafting upcountry

INDIAN GOVERNOR FOR ASSAM.

SIR CHIMANLAL AS EXECUTIVE COUNCILLOR.

SIR BHUPENDRANATH TO BE HIGH COMMISSIONER.

We understand on the most reliable authority that some very interesting changes in high official quarters are imminent. It is stated that Sir Atul Chatterjee who is now holding the office of the High Commissioner for India in England is likely to be appointed as the Governor of Assam and that Sir Bhupendranath Mitter, the present member of the Executive Council of the Governor-General of India is likely to take his place in London.

A vacancy would thus be created in the Viceroy's Executive Council to which, we are reliably informed, Sir Chimanlal Setalwad is to be appointed for a period of six months. This by the way easily explains why he has not been nominated to the Legislative Assembly. This chain of new appointments explains the vague rumours that have been in circulation for some time past.

We further understand that Sir Mahomed Habibullah will retire from the Executive Council after his return from South Africa on account of ill-health and that a Mahomedan member will be selected to fill the vacancy.

BACK BAY MATTERS.

The time has come now to talk of the Back Bay men and the matters they have been busy with. The Mears Committee in their report published to-day have a lot to say about the men and in regard to the manner in which they handled their job—well the Committee do not like to say it in harsh words, being a polite whitewashing sort of Committee—but one can guess their feelings.

* * *

Lord Lloyd was "over-confident". The Committee are surprised that "his acute intelligence overlooked the apparent inadequacy of Sir George Buchanan's figures". His Lordship's "acute intelligence" worked far more mischievously than that. His close "personal interest" took the ill-fated scheme completely out of the purview of any kind of popular control whatsoever!

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And what about his "watch-dog?" While the Committee certify that Lord Lloyd acted from "the highest motives" and was anxious "to make good his undertaking to Mr. Montagu", they have nothing very special to say about the "undertaking" the watch-dog must have given to his master.

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Sir Lawless Hepper is let down lightly. The Committee find that the poor man was so busy with "other Development schemes" that he had not time enough to give undevided attention to his duties.

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There is great conflict of opinion between the "watch-dog" and the "expert", the one and only expert whom Lord Lloyd trusted as to what those duties were.

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Sir George Buchanan says that he (the "expert") had "no power, weight or importance and therefore he allowed his opinion to be disregarded." "Beg you pardon" reply the Committee", you ought to have done nothing of the kind". They think that for Sir George Buchanan to say that he had no power or weight or importance is "an entire misconception of his duties."

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But what about those "dredgers"? Who ordered them and how and why? And how was it that "Sir George Lloyd" lay idle for 21 months? The Committee think that in regard to the order for the dredger "Sir George Buchanan committed a grave error of judgment."

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That is the verdict. It will remind the poor tax-payer of another verdict, that on the notorious Dyer, who also was declared by another Committee to be guilty of an "error of judgment". That "error" cost India many a life; this error will continue to cost the tax-payer lakhs and lakhs in interest alone year after year. The whole business, say the Committee, was "unhappy."

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But they cannot forget the interests of the Empire. The good work must be continued! On with the murum filling, remembering, please, that contractors can do the job better. That is what the Committee advise. But let us not forget that they have treated the whole matter "on the basis that money already spent has been substantially lost."

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So the crores have been dredged away, because Lord Lloyd was "over-confident", and the "expert" committed "grave errors of judgment". We will not forget—shall we? It is WE who have to foot the bill.

THE EXPECTED WHITEWASH.

MILD REBUKE TO EVERYBODY.

LLOYD BOTH BLAMED AND PRAISED

"In whatever direction one turns, there is found either failure of organisation, unexplained delays, and absence of co-ordination, a wasteful method of work or the acquisition of unsuitable plant."
—From Back Bay Report.

"Though we are aware that a Governor must necessarily rely upon his advisers for the details of any particular scheme, yet having regard to the personal interest displayed by Lord Lloyd, as disclosed by his evidence and that of Sir George Buchanan, we are surprised that his acute intelligence overlooked the apparent inadequacy of Sir George Buchanan's figures, even though he held the belief that the 1912 figures of Mr. Kidd were to some extent inflated.
—From Back Bay Report.

The following are the main conclusions of the Back Bay Committee:—

Lord Lloyd left England charged by Mr. Montagu to take urgent steps to improve the housing conditions of Bombay. Whilst that did not necessarily imply the undertaking of a reclamation scheme, reclamation had nevertheless been considered for many years to be an integral part of any comprehensive scheme for the betterment of conditions. We are satisfied from the evidence that Mr. Montagu was deeply interested in the Reclamation, and wished it to be carried through. We think that Lord Lloyd and the Government of Bombay were justified in accepting Sir George Buchanan as an expert to report on Mr. Kidd's scheme, and that having taken the man recommended by the Government of India, the proper and prudent course was to treat his opinion as financial authoritative.

Lord Lloyd's letter of 25th May, 1919, shows conclusively that he had no predilection for a reclamation scheme, and that he was prepared to abandon it at once had Sir George Buchanan reported adversely on it.

Though we are aware that a Governor must necessarily rely upon his advisers for the details of any particular scheme, yet having regard to the personal interest displayed by Lord Lloyd, as disclosed by his evidence and that of Sir George Buchanan, we are surprised that his acute intelligence overlooked the apparent inadequacy of Sir George Buchanan's figures, even though he held the belief that the 1912 figures of Mr. Kidd were to some extent inflated. In his Report, Sir George Buchanan himself gave 241.90 lakhs as the figure which he would have estimated in 1912, and on that basis the work could not have been done by him in 1919 for less than 605 lakhs.

To a lesser extent we are surprised that Lord Lloyd, when reading Sir George Buchanan's report, did not notice that Sir George Buchanan described the clay as hard, whilst Messrs. Simons and Co. were putting forward an offer for a soft clay dredger.

We do not agree with Lord Lloyd that this was a technical point. The explanation may be a technical one, but the discovery of the apparent contradiction between the character of the clay as described by Sir George Buchanan and Messrs. Simons and Co., needed no technical knowledge. It stood out on the document and was, unless satisfactorily explained, a contradiction in terms.

We are satisfied that Lord Lloyd acted throughout with the highest motives, anxious only to make good his undertaking to Mr. Montagu and to benefit the City of Bombay.

Sir George Curtis, who is living at Dinard, was too ill to attend. He has, however, furnished answers to certain questions which were sent to him. Although he was the Member in Charge during the inception of the scheme he has not been able at this distance of time to give us any information of value, and he cannot enlighten us at all as to the reason why no one in the Government of Bombay queried the varying descriptions of clay or compared the estimates of Mr. Kidd and Sir George Buchanan with reference to 1912 and 1919 prices.

We cannot understand how Sir George Buchanan's figures found acceptance in Bombay and Delhi even with the addition of some 10 per cent. It was common knowledge that prices of plant, material and labour, when taken collectively had gone up at least 2½ times in the period between 1912 and 1919. The 1912 figure of Mr. Kidd—225.23 lakhs—had been accepted both by the Government of Bombay and the Government of India as a fair figure. If that was the belief, then 367.61 lakhs was a manifest underestimate, and proper scrutiny would infallibly have demonstrated it. When Sir George Buchanan was being questioned on these two sets of figures by the Committee, and the rise in prices and the inevitable inferences raising from them, he "preferred" not to answer the questions.

The failure of the Government of Bombay and the Government of India, and in particular the failure of Sir Sydney Crookshank, to notice the varying descriptions of clay contained in (a) Mr. Kidd's Report, (b) Sir George Buchanan's Report, (c) Messrs Simons and Co.'s letter of 12th September, 1919, and the "general conditions" enclosed with that letter are regrettable.

The reports of Mr. Kidd and of Sir George Buchanan were not studied with due and proper care by the Bombay Government and the Government of India respectively.

The Government of Bombay ought to have approached the Port Trust and the Royal Indian Marine for permission to dredge in the Harbour before deciding on dredging as the mode of reclamation.

We consider that Sir George Buchanan ought to have made far more extended and careful local investigations. These occupied him for less than a fortnight in May 1919.

culties" with the dredgers "Kalu" and "Jinga" built by Messrs. Simons and Co. He ought to have made specific inquiries about this, but he did not do so. Mr. Messent, the engineer to the Port Trust, gave him at some time the pamphlet entitled "Some results of the working of the "Jinga" and "Kalu." A table of figures in that document showed that the average of both vessels was 1,126 cubic yards per hour as compared with 2,000 cubic yards per hour guaranteed and achieved on test. So little attention did Sir George Buchanan pay to this document that at first he said he had never seen it and knew nothing of the figures. A few days later he informed the Committee that he had found a copy of the document and that, as it bore Mr. Messent's initials, he no doubt got it from him.

In his letter of 25th July, 1919, to Messrs. Simpons and Company, he wanted "your guarantee that the plant will do the work required." He did not get it. He wanted also a dredger "with a minimum capacity of 2,000 cubic yards of clay per hour." He did not get it. On the contrar, he ultimately accepted a specification in which these two most necessary stipulations were omitted.

Not having studied Mr. Messent's publication, he held the unfounded belief (which a careful reading of Mr. Messent's document would have dissipated) that the results of the work of the "Kalu" and "Jinga" justified him in specifying the same output per hour on test for the "Sir George Lloyd."

Messrs. Simons and Company, through their representative Mr. McMurray, were well aware that hard clap existed in Bombay Harbour. Partly for that reason they refused a test on site. They suggested a dredger designed for soft clay but gave no guarantee that it would do the required work or gige a minimum outpu tof 2,000 cubic yards per hour. In drafting their offer of 12th September, 1919, we think they were more concerned in protecting themselves than in supplying a dredger fit for the known purpose for which it was going to be used. Accepting Mr. McMurray's own account of the interviews of July and August, 1919, we disapprove of his attitude and of that of his firm. Sir George Buchanan accepted any conditions they made, because he had the fixed belief that the harbour reclamation was in all respects the same problem as the Scwri, and because of his erroneous belief in the capacity of the "Kalu" and "Jinga."

The capacity of the dredger was much too low, and a guarantee of an output of soft clay "at the rate of" 2,000 cubic yards per huor on test meant infallibly an output under ordinary working conditions of much lesas. The position seems ultimately to have been appreciated by Sir George Buchanan, who, in his report of 15th December, 1921, though it "improbable with the class of material now being taken from the harbour that the "Sir George Lloyd" will do her estimated output of five million cubic yards per annum." In the same report he said, "if we get two-thirds of the total output we shall be doing well."

Having regard to the great initial outlay and the need for speedy realisation, the time within which the work would be completed was an element of the highest importance.

We are convinced that no crew, however, skilful and diligent, ever can or will get anything like five million cubic yards of material from the Harbour in any one season by the agency of the "Sir George Lloyd." In a deep bed of soft clay they probably would get from time to time material at the rate of 2,000 cubic yards per hour. The first two reasons given by Mr. Halcrow in his reprot and set out in the body of this document are conclusive against the possibility of any continuous hapening of material uncertain, the bed of the sea uneven, with upcropping rock, stones and moorum, the capacity of the dredger too low.

Whilst we are of opinion that the "Sir George Lloyd" would under test conditions have delivered 2,000 cubic yards of soft clay per hour, and therefore conformed to the building contract, we are opion that the "Colaba" did not do so, and that she was structurally weak. In our view she ought to have been stiff enough to take any variation in load without sustaining damage by vibration.

In November, 1919, Sir George Buchanan, being in ignorance of the quality and characteristics of the silt or mud and clay in the harbour, ought, as a measure of prudence, to have advised the Government of Bombay that no decision should be come to treat the reclamation as a dredging problem until check borings had been taken to ascertain the density depth and resistance of the silt or mud and clay in various parts of the harbour, and also that it was essential to ascertain by experiment whether the material obtained from the bed of the sea would dry out when deposited in an area [illegible] could, have been arrived at by Decembers, 1919, and the check borings were all the more necessary as Messrs. Simons had at this time definitely refused a test at Bombay.

BUCHANAN'S BAD BUNGLING.

LLOYD'S FOLLY TO BE CONTINUED.

BLOCKS 1, 2, 7 AND 8 TO BE COMPLETED IN 3 YEARS.

"REGRETTABLE ERROR" OF GOVTS OF INDIA AND BOMBAY.

MISLEADING REPORTS OF DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

APOLOGY FOR POLICY OF "HUSH-HUSH."

The Grimwood Mears Committee's Report regarding Back Bay Scheme has just been published. It is a unanimous Report and, as was expected, it is on the whole a whitewashing Report, though the Committee administers mild rebuke to everyone connected with the inception and conduct of the scheme, from the Government of India downwards, the chief person censured being Sir George Buchanan.

Lord Lloyd escapes with light censure. The Committee is surprised that "his acute intelligence overlooked the apparent inadequacy of Sir George Buchanan's figures, even though he held the belief that the 1912 figures of Mr. Kidd were to some extent inflated." To "a lesser extent" the Committee is "surprised that Lord Lloyd when reading Sir George Buchanan's report, did not notice that Sir George Buchanan described the clay as hard whilst Messrs Simon and Co. were putting forward an offer for a soft clay dredger" and the Committee does not agree with Lord Lloyd that this was technical point." The Committee proceeds to modify this censure with the certificate that "we are satisfied that Lord Lloyd acted throughout with the highest motives anxious only to make good his undertaking to Mr. Montagu and to benefit the City of Bombay." The failure of the Government of India and Government of Bombay to notice the varying descriptions of clay contained in Mr. Kidd's report, Sir George Buchanan's report and Messrs. Simon and Co.'s letter is considered only "regrettable" and the Committee thinks that the reports of Mr. Kidd and Sir George Buchanan were not studied with due care by the Government of Bombay and the Government of India respectively.

Sir George Buchanan comes in for censure for various mistakes committed by him.

On the question of respective responsibilities of Sir Lawless Hepper and Sir George Buchanan in relation to the work and in relation to each other it says: "Sir George Buchanan did not sufficiently assist and advise the Government of Bombay nor did he completely or satisfactorily supervise the work. As regards Sir Lawless Hepper, he did not regard himself as responsible for the execution of the work and appears to have thought that the practical carrying out of the scheme was a matter for the Resident Engineer and the firm of Meik and Buchanan and, therefore, in practice there was no driving force behind Mr. Lewis, the Resident Engineer, and no effective daily control." Regarding the execution of the work generally the Committee says: "In whatever direction one turns, there is found either failure of organisation, unexplained delays, and absence of co-ordination a wasteful method of work or the acquisition of unsuitable plant."

The Committee also points out that the Back Bay scheme was started without any one knowing the nature, quality, depth and characteristics of the material in the harbour.

The Committee, referring to Mr. Nariman's statement in the Legislative Council that there were ugly rumours in the City that the higher staff of officers in the Development Directorate had been receiving secret commissions from manufacturers, says: "There has not been throughout the whole of the inquiry the least suggestion that any one interested in supplying or ordering goods for the reclamation or assisting in the work of the reclamation has been guilty of any dishonesty of any kind whatever."

Regarding the rosy pictures drawn in the Development Reports, written by Sir Lawless Hepper, the Committee says that "there is no doubt that these Reports must have conveyed a false impression of the progress of the work and were misleading."

RECOMMENDATION FOR THE FUTURE.

Regarding the future, the Committee considers the completion of Block 8 as most urgent for financial reasons. It recommends that the foreshore portion along block 3, 4, 5 and 6 should be filled in to an average width of 300 feet seaward of the present shore-line and brought up to the ground level of the reclamation.

The Committee also recommends the completion of Blocks 1, 2 and 7 if dredging is found to be unsatisfactory, the "Sir George Lloyd" and the "Colaba" should be disposed off and the reclamation completed by dry filling. The work should, as far as possible be carried out by contract agency and removed from the control of the Development Department, a small committee, including one or two experienced engineers to be constituted to advise Government. The work should be completed in three years.

the "Kalu" and "Jinga," and believing that they had done "extraordinarily good work" was of opinion that vessels of a slightly increased horse-power of the same type would be adequate for the work. A most serious mistake in connection with the order of the dredger was the assumption that a machine capable of dredging 2,000 cubic yards on a short test would be capable of averaging that quantity during a whole season.

The building of the sea wall at both ends simultaneously was disastrous. Though the suggestion emanated from the Government of Bombay, who must therefore take the greater part of the responsibility, we are of opinion that Sir George Buchanan should have advised against it, and resisted it and should in the circumstances of the sale of Block 8 to the Military have prepared a programme for the building of the wall and the commencement of the Reclamation from the Colaba end only.

Moreover, the building of the sea wall from both ends simultaneously prevented the continuance of the original and sensible plan which was to shut in an area as soon as possible and pump into it with the least possible delay.

We are quite unable to accept the theory set up by Sir George Buchanan that the phrases "soft clay" and "stiff clay" as used by him connoted the same density of material. Also we cannot accept his explanation that where he uses the words "hard clay" or "closely compacted clay" or other equivalent phrase, he meant, not that it was hard in its position in the harbour, but that it was of a character which would become hard when pumped into the reclamation.

The firm of Messrs. Meik and Buchanan did not prepare proper programmes of work nor adhere to any fixed programme. The reason of their indecision with regard to the dredging was due partly to the limitation of area by the Port Trust and Royal Indian Marine (for which neither the firm nor Sir George Buchanan can be held accountable), but principally to the fact that, having no certain belief in the quality of the material in the harbour, they were unable to formulate proper and precise future plans.

Sir George Buchanan did not realise that he was the expert to whom from first to last the Government looked for advice and assistance. He did not appreciate that when he found causes for complaint it was his duty to require them to be remedied, and in virtue of his responsibility for supervision to see that they were remedied. In his evidence he ascribed to himself a position of no power, weight or importance, and he allowed his opinion to be disregarded. We think that this was an entire misconception of his position, and he never ought to have allowed his advice to be set on one side. On such occasions as this happened he should at once have realised his duty to the Government of Bombay and assisted them by making the facts known to them, and we can have no doubt that Lord Lloyd and Sir Leslie Wilson would have welcomed information and would have given all help and encouragement to Sir George Buchanan in any effort made by him to advance the work.

The agreement of the 17th March, 1921, between the firm of Meik and Buchanan and the Secretary of State for India in Council was an unhappily framed document. Clause 3 gave Sir Lawless Hepper the opportunity of saying that as the Resident Engineer had to carry out the details of the work in accordance with the firm's instructions, that therefore the firm were responsible for the due execution of the works. On the other hand, Sir George Buchanan naturally pointed to the sentenee also in Clause 3, that the Resident Engineer should be "subject to the control of the Director of Development." From this arose a mutual misunderstanding. Thus from the outset neither Sir George Buchanan nor Sir Lawless Hepper seemed to have a very clearly defined idea of their respective duties. Later, when the disaster was threatening the enterprise, each relied upon his interpretation of the agreement. Sir Lawless Hepper, when giving evidence, insisted before us that Sir George Buchanan was entirely responsible for the due execution of the works, as if he were, in fact, a contractor who had undertaken them. On the other hand, Sir George Buchanan contended that that responsibility lay with Sir Lawless Hepper, pointing out that he it was who had control of the Resident Engineer, and that his firm has no power of dismissal over any of the staff. On the strict construction of the agreement we incline to the opinion that Sir George Buchanan is right, although there are statements of his to be found in his correspondence which would bear the interpretation that he did regard his firm [illegible] we consider Sir George Buchanan committed grave errors of judgment. The principal cause of the failure of the dredging [illegible]

to make Sir George Buchanan's firm responsible for the execution of the works, nothing was easier than to say so in plain and simple words, and as a necessary corollary to put the Resident Engineer entirely under the control of his firm, including the power of appointment and the power of dismissal. The provision that the Government of Bombay should pay the Resident Engineer would not have detracted from a provision that the firm should be responsible for the due execution of the work, nor from the legal position that the Resident Engineer would have been the servant and agent of Sir George Buchanan. In that way the position of Sir George Buchanan and Sir Lawless Hepper would have been perfectly clearly defined.

The reports of the Development Directorate, drafted by Sir Lawless Hepper, cannot be justified. They did not pretent a true picture of the progress of the work and concealed material circumstances.

We are of opinion that Sir Lawless Hepper had so much work in connection with the other Development Schemes that even if he had appreciated his responsibility for the execution of the works he could noly have carried ont that duty as regards the Reclamation by neglecting other duties relating to the other schemes.

Mr. Lewis was not a "specialist in sea works and dredging"; Sir George Buchanan ought not to have nominated him He was, however, greatly handicapped by the necessity of preparing a detailed project estimate, and this so absorbed his energies that he was unable to devote himself fully to supervising and pushing on the work. Very shortly after he became Resident Engineer we are satisfied that he was in health which became manifest and disabling in 1922. It is most regrettable that he was allowed (contrary to Sir George Buchanan's advice) to remain at his post till July, 1924.

We are of opinion that Mr. Elgee, Mr. O'Rorke, and Mr. Speirs have done their best on all occasions to promote the interests of the Reclamation, and that the quarry, constructional and dredging staff have done their duty.

It has been put forward that the Reclamation of Back Bay would, by providing more land in the business and residential area, in some way relieve housing conditions of the poorer classes. That, in our opinion, is too remote for serious consideration, but, had Back Bay proved to be the financial success which was anticipated, the advantage to all classes of persons in the City and throughout the Presidency would have been that there would have been available immense sums of money to be used for any purpose pleasing to the legislative Council. The confident anticipation of profits had no doubt considerable weight in causing the reclamation of Back Bay to be accepted as an integral and necessary part of any comprehensive plan of development.

COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

DETAILED FINDINGS.

The long awaited Report of the Committee appointed by the Government of India to enquire into the Back Bay Reclamation Scheme has just been published. We have received from the Director of Information Bombay, Copy of the Report together with volume I of the Evidence, (taken in India) together with Vol. III of Illustrative documents. Vol. II of the Evidence taken in England has not been supplied to the Press. The reportis unanimous and signed by all the members of the committee. The first chapter is entitled "Preliminary" and in the course of this the committee says:—

On the 19th. May. 1926, the Government of India announced their decision to appoint, with the approval of the Secretary of State, a Committee of Inquiry in connection with the Back Bay Reclamation scheme.

The following resolution was issued by the Government of India in the Department of Industries and Labour on 29th. July, 1926:—

"At the request of the Bombay Government, the Government of India recently decided, in the exercise of their powers of superintendence, direction and control and with the approval of the Secretary of State, to appoint a Committee of Inquiry in connection with the Bombay Back Bay Reclamation Scheme.

The Committee has now been [illegible]

GIVE THE SUFFERING WORLD A LEAD.

WORLD'S SALVATION DEPENDS ON INDIA.

BUILD CONGRESS ON BIG FOUNDATIONS.

WARNING AGAINST DEFEATIST DOCTRINE

SAKLATVALA'S MAGNIFICENT ORATION.

Those who had the good fortune to witness at close quarters that vast assemblage of men and women congregated in the spacious compound of the Congress House on Sunday evening, need not be told in how great a regard and admiration comrade Shapurji Saklatwalla is held by the teeming millions of India. Full two hours before the meeting started, enthusiastic people, numbering several hundreds, were seen squatting on the carpets not to lose the splendid opportunity of viewing the great man from an elbow distance. Every minute the crowd was thickening until at last it reached enormous dimensions. Batches of sturdy volunteers, in their Congress uniform, were at their wits' end to control that uncontrollably huge concourse of humanity. The branches of trees in the compound and in the near vicinity were all covered with venturesome youngsters great many of whom had flooded the ramparts surrounding the compound. According to moderate computation the crowd would have numbered several thousands, every one of them standing on the tiptoe of expectancy.

SKY-RENDING APPLAUSE.

There was a tumultuous commotion among the people when Shj. Shrinivas Iyengar and Mr. Saklatwalla made their appearance on the raised platform. Sky-rending shouts of applause were resounding in the atmosphere for several minutes which Mrs. Sarojini Naidu herself found it difficult to calm down.

IDEAL—THE SAME.

Mrs. Sarojini Naidu who rose to propose the chairman of the evening, had a full gaze over the crowd and she was amazed by its dimensions. In her usual humerous way she called that crowd the 41st Session of the Indian National Congress. "look at this crowd", she continued "And say whether the influence of the Congress is daily increasing or diminishing." Paying a glowing tribute to the previous day's big oratorical performance of Mr. Shapurji Saklatwalla she pointed out his ideal was exactly identical with the ideal of Mahatma Gandhi. "It is only the words" proceeded Mrs. Naidu, "that divide humanity. Ideals are the same in all cases. The ideal of Mr. Saklatwalla and Mahatma Gandhi was the conception of right of every section of humanity for political freedom. Our Congress—the Parliament of India, stands for this ideal. The Congress stands for democracy, equality and peaceful victory for one and for all." Mrs. Naidu then wittily remarked that she had attended the meeting to hear and not to speak, which attitude, she described as a healthy change. She then requested Shj. Shrinivas Iyengar to accept the chair and oust her from a speaker's position as he had already ousted her from the presidential chair of this Congress.

The president and Mr. Saklatwalla were garlanded amidst enthusiastic acclamation from the audience.

NATIONAL GOVERNMENT HOUSE.

Mr. Shrinivas Iyengar, who could not begin his speech for a cuple of minutes owing to the prolongation of the applause, asked his hearers to excuse his small voice as he was not feeling well. Referring to Mrs. Naidu's humorous wit he sarcastically remarked that he was not in a position to oust her as he had not got half her eloquence. Looking to the huge Congress building in front of him he said "you have got a real national Government House and you have entrusted Mrs Naidu to rule you under its roof".

PROBLEMS BEFORE DEMOCRACY.

"I am not going to speak on Gauhati resolutions", proceeded the president, "as I am personally concerned with them. I am going to talk very little as I know that he succeeds well who talks least. I need not tell you that Indian democracy has very many problems to face In Europe and America, democratic ideals came at a later stage of development but in India they have come a bit too earlier. We have, therefore, to gird up our loins and prepare ourselves to play the part as becomes valiant and patriotic men."

PROBLEM OF UNEMPLOYMENT.

"I am not to be frightened by words" went on the President. While I was just discussing some matters with Mr. Jayakar, he pointed out to me that Communism was nothing but Hinduism. I do consider that we, in India, have not got that sharp conflict between leaders and the masses. The problems here are very simple. Every one has a message for the final emancipation of India. Curiously enough I find even Mr. Langford James and the Viceroy agreeing upon the necessity of educating Indians. According to me the problem of unemployment is the keener problem of the day. I understand that Labour is a problem but where I talk of Labour I do not fail to think of the labour-less population of India. I consider, therefore, that men who are interested in Labour, should first tackle the question of unemployment. The unemployment ought to be organised in this country as it is organised in Western countries."

ARISTOCRATIC UNEMPLOYMENT.

"The problem of higher unemployment i.e. unemployment among men drawing fat salaries, is much more difficult still. I call it an aristocratic unemployment. We must first devote our attention towards those who are every day nothing in their homes for want of employment of whatever kind."

ECONOMICS OF CHARKA.

"Unfortunately I do not hold the same views about the economics of Charka as my leader Mahatma Gandhi does. According to me it cannot be the sole means of removing unemployment. It surely does not provide employment to all. We must start some other industries in addition to Charka to get our teeming population out of the clutches of unemployment."

A LEGAL FICTION.

"You have made me a citizen of Bombay by a legal fiction as I happen to be the President of the Congress. I. therefore, welcome Mr. Saklatwalla as a citizen of Bombay on behalf of you all. The princely reception which you gave him on his landing on the shores of his motherland and the brilliant speeches which he has delivered in these two days, the extracts of which I have read with great pleasure and relish, made me realize that his message is the message of entire human civilization. It is the same as the message of non-violence preached by Mahatma Gandhi. You need not be afraid of the bogey of communism which is sought to be created by the enemies of that creed."

DON'T DEPEND UPON FOREIGN HELP.

"I asked my friend Mr. Saklatwala," continued the president, "whether the Labour Party in England was something like a real labours' party and he answered my query with an emphatic no. The Labour Party that can include men like Lords Haldane and Chelmsford in their cabinet, can never be a party representative of true labour. What I. therefore, appeal to you is this that you can rely only on the doctrine of self-reliance. The extraneous help is only of a precarious nature and it can never be the basis of salvation. British labour and capital are identical in their interests so far as India is concerned. We were told before the war that England entered the war for the interests of smaller nationalities and down-trodden people. We are disillusioned by the events that followed the great war. Don't therefore, put too much belief in foreigners who are only the birds of passage. Find your own leaders in men like comrade Saklatwalla. Labour in India must not be harnessed to British Labour. You can not get your leaders manufactured in England. Labour is yet an unsolved problem but a man like Mr. Saklatwala, with his rich experience of the west and his invaluable sacrifices and probably with his disillusionment, will be able to throw more light upon that problem. My brief association with the Government has given me enough disillusionment. I want my minister friends to take a lesson from it."

NOT THE SHADOW OF UNITY.

"I want the real unity and not its shadow. We were all for the release of Bengal detenues. We clamoured for it as hard and loudly as we could. But what is the result? Where is the response to this magnificent unity? I personally do not believe in verbal unity. I want a potent and effective unity that will make its voice heard."

The President then called upon Mr. Saklatwalla to address the audience.

AT HIS BRIGHTEST.

The Communist M.P.'s flash of eloquence, which is a bit underrated on the floors of the commons, was at its brightest last evening. For complete two hours, he could hold such a big assemblage as that, literally spell-bound. However sharply opinions may differ on many a proposition he enunciated during his lengthy address, the fact remains that his oratorical performance was supremely well-done. Starting in rather a low voice, he evolved his arguments with such nicety and dexterity that he was soon able to carry the audience with him. His speech was punctuated, every now and then, with uproarious shouts which were the natural outbursts of temporary emotions.

TRIBUTE TO THE DEPARTED.

In his sonorous tones, Mr. Saklatwala began, I stand here surrounded not only by my friends and esteemed leaders, but by the sacred spirits of those departed leaders of India who, for the last 42 years, fought for the struggle of India's emancipation. I can recall all those benefactors of India and humahity. We would be untrue to ourselves if we do not direct our energies to the ideals set before us by those departed souls. The aim of political liberty ought to be to put you on a firm pedestal for the future life."

FUTURE SOVIET HOUSE.

"I look upon this big Congress House as the future Soviet House of Bombay. You are enamoured of the word Government because it means a supreme power that can dictate to all. Some curiosity-hunting young men have just asked me to point out the difference between communism and Bolshevism. Whenever the newspapers like the "Daily Mail" of London, want to frighten you they use the word "Communism". If you are found a little bit stiffer they use the word "Bolshevism". Speaking to you as one of you, with all the burning love for my country, I appeal to you to drive away from your minds that in India you have got peculiar difficulties. I can assure you without the least fear of being contradicted that you hav not got any special defects or difficulties as compared with other nations who wrought their freedom."

DOCTRINE OF DEFEATISTS.

"That is a doctrine of defeatists' propaganda that has been inoculated in you by your enemies. Human failings and sufferings are the same everywhere. Again you have been often told that you have got a Government which is terroristic and unyielding. Such doctrines are preached to you in order to frighten you out of life. But remember all Governments are of a piece. Any Government is bound to do the maximum of tyranny. You have got to understand that Government's power is always maximum. The power of Government is in inverse proportion with the strength of the people. It is always the function of the higher strata to crush the lower strata and it is your duty to stop the higher strata from fulfilling its selfish ends."

CONGRESS TROUGH TRANSITIONS

"Look at the history of the Congress. It was, in the beginning, a body entrusted to the keeping of benevolent minds who could do nothing except asking them to be benevolent to one another. The first shock came when the latt Dadabhai Nowroji defined in clear terms, the goal of the Congress The Congress, however, survived that shock and gathered more strength and influence. The next shock came when the Congress reached the Surat stage. The third calamity came when Mahatma Gandhi inaugurated his non-violent non-co-operation movement and a fourth when Desh-Bandhu Das came out with his obstruction policy. Every time we were afraid that Congress would suffer and lose its influence. But nothing of the kind has happened."

TRIBUTE TO GANDHI.

"Whatever we may say in agreement or disagreement about the political programme of Mahatma Gandhi the fact remains that he had brought a new and a bold concept into the life of the Congress and the nation. It frightened some men but we have survived that catastrophe also. He has created a new psychology, a new struggle and a new Power. We started the Congress with defeatists mind. We started it as a talking machinery, dancing to the tunes of men like Lord Dufferin and David Hume."

CONGRESS WITHOUT FOUNDATION.

"Our Congress has not got proper foundation as the other big institutions of the world have. The American Congressmen have written on the very foundation stone what they wanted and how they could have it. Take the ecase of the Temperance Movement. It has gone through its 52nd year but the aim and objects remain the same. The Congress was started in conspiratory rooms without any foundation. It is now high time that we must lay down in clear and unequivocal terms the aim and objects of the Congress. For the last 42 years you have been sailing in a boat on a wide sea entirely at the mercy of the storm and billows that can drive us anywhere. You can achieve nothing unless you have a clear-cut purpose before you."

MODERN IMPERIALISM.

There is moreover a world difference between the imperialism of older days and the modern British imperialism. The old imperialism could live on spoils alone but modern imperialism is commercial and economic Remember with Britain to-day the imperial position is not a matter of pride. It is a question of life and death to them. In losing India they will lose everything that constitutes their greatness."

THE SAME LABOUR PROBLEMS.

"The president says that, in India, we have not got the accentuation of relation between Labour and Capital. But I differ from him there. The sufferings of working classes are the same everywhere in all the countries. The problem of the world is the problem of multiplication. During the past few centuries the population of the world is exactly doubled. The provision has to be made for this increased population. You cannot neglect the rest of the world in chalking out your destiny. The world will not let you escape. Your struggle must be in keeping with the general struggle of the world."

TRUE COMMUNISM.

"That brings me to Bolshevism and Communism. It breaks my heart to see that our people are duped humbugged and deceived, by Parliamentary Governments which are nothing but refined and modern instruments of tyranny. We are worshipping a false parliamentary system. You must explode that system if you want to work your emancipation. It has become a standing joke in the Lobbies of the Commons that there was only one man in England who knew how to explode the parliamentary Government and unfortunately he was caught before he could complete his experiment. I refer here to Guy Fox, the famous plotter. Try to study communism scientifically before you come down upon it. Great Britain hates communism because it comes in the way of their selfish ends."

CONTACT INEVITABLE.

"You cannot avoid the contact between Europe and Asia. What you can do is to make that contact a perfect and a helpful one. Exchange of good things on both the sides will surely result in greater good, which ought to be the aim of civilized humanity. Don't follow the old shibboleths and condemn the new principles. In boycotting the British goods you put poor people in Lancashire to starvation. That was a movement miscalculated in its effects. You robbed the poor people of their food and the real culprits went scot-free. The poor people of the world are bound together by bonds of comradeship. This is the general principle which communism embodies."

"I beg of the Indian National Congress that you are looked upon by the world with a sort of anxiety. Upon the salvation of India, depends the salvation of the world. Give the suffering world an example and a lead. Chalk out your programme in relativity with the world problems and not in a secluded manner."

Mrs. Sarojini Naidu, while thanking the president and the distinguished speaker, exhorted the hearers to carry to their hearts the message given by Mr. Sakalatwala. With the shouts of Bande Mataram the meeting dispersed.

PARTY TO COMRADE "SAK".

A most joyous "At Home" indeed! That's how one can describe the sumptuous "Tea Party" to which Comrade Shapurji Saklatvala was entertained by the Bombay Provincial Congress Committee on Sunday afternoon, at the Congress House, Girgaum. The spacious compound of the Congress House was everywhere decorated with tri-coloured national flags, emblems of India's freedom. The band was playing its melodious tunes and the whole atmosphere of the place was surcharged with healthy feelings of patriotism and comradeship. Those who participated in the function were Shj. Shrinivas Ayengar. The president of the Indian National Congress, Maulana Shaukat Ali, Mrs. Sarojini Naidu, Messrs. Jamanadas Mehta, Jayasukhlal Mehta, L. R. Tairsee, S. K. Bole, N. M. Joshi, B. F. Barucha, Ginwalla and Dr. Savarkar.

ROUSING RECEPTION.

The Communist M.P., on stepping inside the main gate of the Congress House, was vociferously greeted with shouts of joy. Along with other distinguished guests he was taken to the main table. One more outburst of applause reverberated in the compound from one end to the other when Mr. Shrinivas Ayengar made his appearance on the scene. The President and Mr. Saklatwala were introduced to each other by the ex-president of the Congress, Mrs. Sarojini Naidu. Light refreshment was then taken amidst great pleasure and jubilation and after that the distinguished guests moved to that part of the compound where a huge crowd of expectant men and women was awaiting their arrival every minute.

"INDIAN SEAMEN, UNITE."

MR. SAKLATWALLA'S PLEA FOR ORGANISATION.

The Indian Seamen of all castes and religions mustered strong at the Keshavjee Building on Sunday evening when Mr. Shapurji Saklatwala M.P. was accorded a hearty reception by the Indian Seamen's union. Mr. J. Atheide the Chairman of the union presided Messrs. N. M. Joshi and S. K. Bole were among those present.

At the outset Mr. Atheide accorded a hearty welcome on behalf of Indian Seamen to the Communist M.P. whom he described as the greatest Indian Champion of Labour. Mr. Atheide then gave a short history of the union and requested Mr. Saklatwala to give some words of advice to those present.

"Indian Seamen, unite"—this was the sum and substance of the long and explanatory speech Mr. Saklatwala delivered in Hindi. He thanked the union and its members for the kind reception they had given him and explained at length what communism wanted to do for labour which formed the most integral part of mankind. All workers should join their respective unions and all unions should form a part of the All-India Trade Union Congress. When workers joined the unions, their employers dare not trouble them. A unionist workman would get facilities throughout the world and therefore he appealed to all seamen of whatever caste or creed to join the union.

Mr. Aithede thanking Mr. Saklatwala again said that the Bombay Union was the first Indian seamen's union in existence for the last 20 years and Mr. Saklatwala had christened it and had been its God father. He hoped, Mr. Saklatwala's appeal to the Seamen would not go in vain.

NO POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE?

CHURCHILL MUSSOLINI CONFERENCE

LONDON, Jan. 16.

Rome.—Mr. Churchill and Sgr. Mussolini conferred to-day at the Foreign Office for an hour. The British Ambassador was present in the first half hour, after which there was complete privacy. They parted in a most friendly manner. The papers here state that Mr. Churchill's visit is without any political significance. Mr. Churchill spent a part of his time in sketching ancient monuments of Rome.—Reuter.

"DEVELOP NATIONAL SELF-RESPECT."

MR. IYENGAR'S STIRRING APPEAL.

HIS MISSION FOR THE YEAR.

Replying to the address of welcome, presented on behalf of the South Indians in Bombay, Mr. Srinivasa Iyengar made a fervent appeal to the community to think and act nationally.

Emphasising the need for self-reliance, Mr. Iyengar said "We must develop national self-respect; and individual self-respect alone is not sufficient."

Regarding his programme for the year, he said that he would earnestly strive to bring about Hindu-Muslim unity or would break down in the process.

TO ACHIEVE HINDU--MUSLIM UNITY.

Punctual to a minute, the Madras Mail steamed in the platform on Sunday morning with the President of the Indian National Congress, and, the biting chill of the early hours notwithstanding, a large number of South Indians representing various institutions awaited him on the Victoria Terminus platform. Mr. Srinivasa Iyengar on alighting from the train was profousely garlanded after which he drove to his residence in Malabar Hill.

Unfortunately he was seriously indisposed. In spite of the definite instructions from his doctor, Mr. Iyengar did not want to disappoint the South Indians who in the afternoon had arranged a grand reception for him at Parel.

PROCESSION ABANDONED.

The Damodar Thackersey Hall was all life and activity from very early in the day. The proposed procession had to be dropped because of the honoured guest's indifferent health.

The hall was crowded to suffocation, and by 4-30 distinguished leaders began to arrive. Maulana Shaukat Ali accompanied by Shuaib Qureshi and others were welcomed with loud applause and Mr. Bharucha was the recipient of a big ovation on his entering the hall. Others included Dr. Sathaye, and Messrs. Jamnadas Mehta, J. J. Ginwala, A. N. Surve. Mrs. Naidu was proposed to the chair. The proceedings commenced with the "Bande Matram" song by Mr. K. S. Sivaramakrishnan whose musical skill and melody was very much appreciated by the audience. Special Tamil songs of welcome were then sung and Mr. N. N. Menon recited his own Malayalam Mangala Sloka.

This being over, Mr. K. S. Ramachandra Iyer read the address of welcome printed on a piece of khaddar with artistic displays on the borders.

The following is the text of the address.

TEXT OF ADDRESS.

"We, the South Indian residents of Bombay, have great pleasure in offering you a cordial welcome on this your first visit to this city after your election to the Presidentship of The 41st Indian National Congress. Our pleasure in extending to you this welcome is considerably enhanced by the fact that we receive in our midst today a South Indian distinguished alike for his culture and patriotism as for the sacrifice he has made for the country.

Well do we remember that at a time when you were holding one of the most coveted positions in the Government, you unhesitatingly gave it up at the call of the Motherland and plunged yourself into the service of the nation. Your services in the cause of labour, the unemployed and the untouchables are well known and we feel sure that your present position with the increased opportunities it affords will be utilised for further work in that direction. Nor can we forget that you have been in no small measure responsible for the triumph of nationalism over communalism.

We are glad that under your leadership the Congress has set before the country a comprehensive programme of work and we trust that, when the time comes for you to lay down your high office, the country will have carried out her appointed task, and thus brought Swaraj nearer.

May Providence be pleased to spare you for many many years to continue the work of service and usefulness to the country!"

MR. IYENGAR'S REPLY.

Mr. Srinivasa Iyengar on rising to reply was warmly applauded and cheered.

"I do not regard this address," began the distinguished visitor, "which you have presented to me as the address presented with a narrow or parochial feeling. I regard this really as an address presented on behalf of the South Indians of Bombay who, if they could be united in Bombay as in South India, will represent nationalism as much as any other community can. I have no doubt, it is in that spirit you have given me this address. Personally, in that spirit only can I accept this. There is no gainsaying the fact that in Bombay during the last general elections you did yeoman service of the cause of Swaraj, to the cause of Nationalism" by putting in "your weight by Mr. Ginwalla, who is not a South Indian." He then referred to the vituperative criticism of "Evening News", and made an effective reply to unseen critics.

The whole burden of Mr. Iyengar's reply was the advocacy of self-determination and self-reliance.

"We have put down in the Congress as one of the foremost principle "self-reliance" borrowing that from the greatest of men, Mahatma Gandhi (loud applause). By Self-reliance it is not meant that we must quarrel among ourselves and against one another.

DEVELOP NATIONAL SELF-RESPECT.

"I have been forced to see what the European mentality is. They treat the highest of Indians worse than they treat the meanest of Europeans. We must also have that racial spirit and we must develop that national self-respect and individual Self-respect alone is not sufficient. Whether the labourer in the street is the victim of ill-treatment, whether a cooly in the plantations is the victim, you must feel as if the whole nation has been insulted." (Hear, hear and applause). It is necessary for South Indians who have come here, to keep this flag of National Self-respect aloft."

Mr. Iyengar then appealed to the people to support only Indian newspapers which advocated the cause of Indian nationalism and Swaraj. He was pained that in certain provinces there was a tendency to denationalisation and degeneration in journalism, and he strongly expressed that the press should be in the hands of nationalists.

"Bombay used to be the political centre of this country. But now it is a mere geographical expression". He reiterated that his labour, during the whole term of office as President of the Congress, would be to achieve Hindu-Moslem unity or to break down in the process.

HINDU-MUSLIM UNITY.

Then Mrs. Naidu rose to address the gathering. In Mr. Srinivasa Iyengar, she said, they had one of the most illustrious sons of India. He was a cultured person and his culture was combined with patriotism and the spirit of service and sacrifice.

Referring to unity she said that the question of Hindu-Moslem unity, to which Mr. Iyengar is going to dedicate all his brilliant efforts this year, is the real thing that is necessary—the unity without which there can be no national life. She wished the President of the Congress all success in his endeavour and hoped in the words of the address that "the country will have carried out her appointed task and thus brought Swaraj nearer."

The function then came to a close with votes of thanks to the President and the guest.

MR. IYENGAR LEAVES FOR DELHI

Mr. S. Srinivasa Iyengar left for Delhi by Sunday night (Delhi express). Mr. K. S. Ramachandra Iyer and some others saw him off.

OFFICIAL AND PERSONAL.

His Excellency M. Tarzi, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Afghanistan, being ill is proceeding to Europe for treatment via, Bombay. The Minister who is accompanied by Madame Tarzi, Her Royal Highness Princess Maliha Sultan, the daughter of His Majesty the King Amanullah Khan and Her Royal Highness Kubetjan, the sister of His Majesty, is staying at the Taj Mahal Hotel. The Royal party leaves on Wednesday the 19th by the s.s "Pilsna".

"Effingham" this morning from Rangoon. Major Hobbs, the Military Secretary to the Governor, received the Admiral on board the ship. Shortly after his arrival the Admiral paid a visit to the Government House, and H. E. the Governor will pay a return visit this afternoon. The flagship will leave Madras on the 21st instant for Calcutta.—A. P.

THE EXPECTED WHITEWASH

(Continued from page 11).

tuted and will consist of the following:—

Chairman: Sir Grimwood Mears, Chie Justice Allahabad High Court.

Members: Sir M. Visvesvaraya, K.C.I.E. D.Sc., M.I.C.E., Sir Frederick Thomas Hopkinson, K.B.E., M.I.C.E., and Mr. S.B. Billimoria, M.B.E.

The Secretary will be Mr. R. B. Ewban C.I.E., I.C.S.

The terms of reference of the Committee are as follows:—

Firstly, to inquire into the history of the inception and conduct of the Back Bay Reclamation Scheme.

Secondly, to make recommendations as regards future operations.

The Committee will meet in Bombay on Monday the 2nd. August, 1926."

In pursuance of the above resolution, the Committee held their first public meeting in Bombay on 3rd. August, 1926, and between that date and 24th. August examined 38 witnesses. They also inspected the site of the Reclamation, the quarry at Kandivli, the dredger ("Sir George, Lloyd"), the booster ("Colaba") and the "Jinga."

The Inquiry was resumed in London on 17th. September, 1926, and 19 witnesses were examined. Sittings were concluded on 15th. November, 1926.

A list of the witnesses in alphabetical order will be found in Volume II as a preface to the evidence.

The figures in sterling which are put in brackets against figures of Indian currency have been calculated on the basis of the rupee being equal to one shilling and sixpence and give therefore an approximate figure. The rupee has been subject to great fluctuations between 1912 and 1926—a matter referred to later in this Report.

The bracketed figures are given to enable the significance of the sums to be more readily followed by those familiar with English currency. Rs. 100,000, equal a lakh. 100 lakhs constitute a crore.

An attack of malaria prevented Sir Grimwood Mears for a time from continuing to serve on the Committee, and from the 18th. August until the 26th. September, Sir M. Visvesvaraya occupied the chair.

The Report which we are now submitting is a lengthy document, but we feel this to be unavoidable. The matter is one of great public importance, regard being had to the gravity and urgency of the housing question in the City of Bombay, as well as to the magnitude of the sums of money involved. It has excited widespread interest and the reputations of gentlemen ofhigh position, filling a large space in the public eye, must inevitably be affected by the conclusions at which we have arrived. Our endeavour, therefore, has been to produce a self-contained document, affording the public an opportunity of estimating for themselves how far our conclusions are justified.

HISTORY OF SUCCESSIVE RECLAMATIONS.

The second chapter is entitled the History of successive Reclamations in the course of which the Commission says:—

In 1906 the Public Works Department drew up a revised scheme for the winning of 973 acres from Back Bay and 121 acres from the Harbour side of Colaba Peninsula. They estimated the cost of the Back Bay project at Rs. 3.73 per square yard.

Thereupon Lord Lamington appointed a Committee to consider the scheme, and as a result of certain suggestions made by them it was estimated that the work in Back Bay would cost not 176 lakhs but 320 lakhs (£2,400,000).

The feasibility of a successful reclamation of Back Bay attracted in 1908 the attention of Messrs. Lowther and Company, a well-known firm of engineers. They prepared outline schemes of a very ambitious nature; the first being the reclamation of an area of 3,576 acres at an anticipated cost of Rs. 7.10 per square yard and the second a smaller area of 2,945 acres at a slightly lesser cost. They corresponded with the Government of Bombay and in 1910 submitted two other alternative schemes which provided for the enclosure of 1,272 acres at a cost, inclusive of development, of Rs. 5.80 per square yard rising to 6.04 per square yard for a smaller area of 973 acres.

MR. KIDD'S REPORT.

On 21st. January, 1911, the Government of Bombay addressed the Government of India, emphasising the urgent need for the provision of the areas suitable for residential quarters and sites for public purposes and stated that, after extensive consultations with different interested bodies they placed reclamation in Back Bay in the forefront of the programme of urgently needed developments. They submitted the two schemes prepared by Messrs. Lowther and Kidd (the successors to Messrs Lowther and Company.) The first had for its object the reclamation of 973 acres as proposed by the 1907 Committee at a cost of 284 lakhs, the debt being extinguished at the end of the 69th. year. The second scheme provided for the reclamation of 1,272 acres at a cost of 388 lakhs, the debt being extinguished within a century. The Government of Bombay were disposed to consider that the best and most profitable scheme would probably be one having a gross area of about 1,100 acres. The letter gave no details of this scheme, the object being to obtain the approval of the Government of India

> "To a lesser extent we are surprised that Lord Lloyd, when reading Sir George Buchanan's report, did not notice that Sir George Buchanan described the clay as hard, whilst Messrs. Simons and Co., were putting forward an offer for a soft clay dredger. We do not agree with Lord Lloyd that this was a technical point."
>
> —From Back Bay Report.

and the Secretary of State before undertaking its detailed examination. They stated that they were not in favour of granting a concession to a private company to reclaim the land and to lease it for a term of years, on the grounds that such an arrangement would not assist the Improvement Trust; and they were of opinion that a Company could not borrow money except at rates of interest which might jeopardise the success of the scheme or raise the price of the land reclaimed to an excessive figure; and further that Government would be debarred from that control over the operations which they considered essential.

To this communication the Government of India sent a cautious reply. They stated that the information furnished was insufficient to enable them to recommend the project to the Secretary of State as a productive work or to accept any responsibility financial or otherwise—they emphasised that the money required for the scheme would have to be diverted from remunerative railway and irrigation projects and they expressed an opinion, which experience has since justified, that they were not convinced that the carrying out of the work should be entrusted to the departmental agency of Government rather than to private enterprise working under Government control.

They added two observations of great weight that "large estimates of this type were particularly liable to be exceeded and that even in Bombay experience of this type of reclamation on an open sea front was limited."

A PRUDENT SUGGESTION.

The Government of Bombay replied on 6th. December, 1911, and explained that the two tentative schemes were put forward with the object of proving that the reasons for believing that the work would be reproductive were sufficiently strong to justify expenditure on the more detailed investigation required for the preparation of a complete project. The figures put up by them had been prepared by their own Public Works Department officers and confirmed by Mr. Kidd, who possessed special knowledge of this class of work. The Governor-in-Council was convinced that the figures had been drawn up with due care and were sufficient for the immediate purpose in view, namely, to show that the reclamation, scheme would be a reproductive public work and, as such, deserved detailed investigation. They gave reasons for disapproving the formation of a syndicate to undertake the work, or its transference to the Corporation or to a local Trust, or to a special Reclamation Trust created 'ad hoc.' They urged that the work shoud be undertaken on the financial responsibility, if not by the agency, of Government, loans being raised by the Imperial Government and placed at the disposal of the Local Government, and they made the prudent suggestion that the work, should be executed by a contractor under the supervision of a Government engineer. They forwarded an offer from Messrs., Lowther and Kidd to execute and complete a detailed survey and investigation of the site, and to supply detailed drawings and estimates based on such survey. They added that it was not intended that the firm's estimate should be accepted without careful scrutiny on the spot by an independent expert, if such could be obtained. The Government of India agreed to the proposed detailed survey, on the understanding that the expense thereof would be met from provincial revenues and that the Local Government would take such precautions as might be necessary to ensure the correctness of the surveys and reports.

MR. KIDD'S ESTIMATE OF 325 LAKHS.

On the 18th. January, 1912 Mr. Kidd was instructed to make the survey and submit a report. Mr. Kidd was then in London. He proceeded to Bombay and on the 3rd. August, 1912, presented his report to the Government of Bombay. The report will have to be dealt with in some detail; but it is sufficient at the moment to say that though he described the work as one of "an exceptionally specialised charcter," he had a full belief in the feasibility of the scheme and in his ability to carry it through. In the period between January and July 1912 he took 1,314 borings over an area of about six square miles in the harbour and recorded 1,159 of them. He had complete confidence in the existence of sufficient material of a suitable character and he was satisfied that, with modern suction dredging plant of proper power, the material could be removed from the bed of the sea and pumped across the peninsula into an area of 1,145 acres enclosed by a sea wall.

He described the clay as "stiff and unctuous"—a description which must be referred to again and again. His estimate of the cost, after allowing 20 per cent. for possible increase in the current prices of plant and labour, was 325.23 lakhs (£2,439,225).

On these figures the cost per square yard of the area when reclaimed was Rs, 5.86—about 8s. 9 1/2d.

In submitting this estimate to the Government of India on 7th. August, 1912, the Bombay Government observed: "The investigations have been most carefully made and may be accepted as exhaustive. The report is clear and complete; all doubtful points have been settled, and the revised estimates now forwarded may be accepted as completely trustworthy." They added that His Excellency had the fullest confidence in the ability and expert knowledge of Mr. Kidd, who had worked out the project in detail. In a urt her letter of the 11th. March, 1913 they forwarded the report of a committee of prominent and representative citizens, appointed under the chairmanship of Sir Vithaldas D. Thackersey, who had been asked to advise on certain specific questions connected with the scheme. The Committee were unanimous in maintaining that reclamation was required to prevent overcrowding and the pressure of increasing rents. They thought that an average sale of 60,000 square yards per annum was a reasonable assumption, and that Rs. 25 per sqare yard selling price was a safe estimate. They recommended that the work should be undertaken immediately.

1913 DECISION.

The Government of India examined these proposals with great care. Members of the Governor-General's Council visited Bombay in the course of 1913 and discussed the matter with Sir George Clarke (Lord Sydenham) and with Lord Willingdon, as well as with a number of prominent people in Bombay. The following decisions were arrived at:—

(1) A strong and representative Committee should consider the reclamation of Back Bay in connection with the general development of Bombay City.

(2) If the Committee were in favour of the Back Bay scheme a beginning should be made with a strip of land measuring 84 acres at an estimated cost of 37 lakhs.

(3) The above sum was to be found from provincial funds and the validity of the estimates and the demand for land was to be decided by this experiment. If it prove successful the profits would be available for another sectional extension.

13. Sir Claude Hill, who comes into prominence later, was the Chairman of the Bombay Development Committee, which was constituted in accordance with the decision just mentioned. They proposed a preliminary reclamation of an area of about 100 acres, mainly to provide for urgently required public buildings. They were of opinion that this work when completed would furnish a practical test of the correctness of the large estimate of 325 lakhs, but they appear to have overlooked the fact that it would not have been a reasonable business proposition to acquire dredgers and dredging plant for this small area and that, if the reclamation was to be done by dry filling, the cost, would afford no basis of comparison with the proposed scheme of dredging advocated by Mr. Kidd.

A NEW PROPOSAL.

One gathers that this proposed limitation of area did not meet with the approval of the Government of Bombay, who on the 15th. September, 1916, put before the Government of India a new proposal of Mr. Kidd to reclaim 220 acres a ta cost of 83 1/2 lakhs (£626,250). The Local Government stated that as a matter of caution they had increased the estimate to 124 lakhs (£930,000), whilst extending the time anticipated by Mr. Kidd from 4 1/2 to 8 years. After provision for roads the cost of reclamation was stated to amount to Rs. 15 per square yard. The undertaking was to be financed from Provincial revenues.

In February 1917 the Government of India refused their sanction, pointing out that the ordinary expenditure of the Local Government was in excess of their ordinary receipts, but intimating that they might consider a scheme based upon the more modest recommendation of the Bombay Development Committee. Concentration on war activities precluded for a time the further consideration of any scheme.

A SYNDICATE'S OFFER.

In December 1917 a Syndicate of important and influential citizens interested themselves in the possibilities of reclamation. They were Sir Sassoon David, Sir Shapurji Broacha, Sir Fazalbhoy Currimbhoy, Sir Vithaldas Thakersey and Mr. (now Sir) Lallubhai Samaldas. They asked the Government of Bombay for a concession and proposed to form a company, with the necessary capital.

In the same month the wealthy and powerful firm of Messrs. Tata and Company, Ltd., also sought a concession. Within a few weeks the Syndicate and Messrs. Tata and Sons joined forces, and on the 15th. January, 1918 their representatives had a meeting with the Hon. Mr. Carmichael (now Sir George Carmichael), the Finance Member to the Local Government.

The willingness of the Syndicate and of Messrs. Tata and Sons, Ltd., to undertake the enterprise gave the project fresh impetus. It must have occurred to the Local Governmet that the readiness of these groups to embark their money and business reputation in the venture fortified their own opinion of its feasibility and ultimate financial success. The reclamation, if undertaken by the Local Government and successfully completed, would ease the congestion in the valuable business and residential area, would provide for open spaces which were urgently needed, and might yield a profit which could be used for the benefit of the poorer classes, whose conditions of life were at that time and are to-day a reproach to the city of Bombay. In the Report of the Bombay Development Committee (1914) it was stated (page 58) that in the census of 1911 "out of the total population of 929,082, living in 200,308 tenements, 743,247, i.e., about 80 per cent of the total population, live in 166,337 one-room tenements." Shocking as this condition was in 1911, it became worse in 1917 and accentuated in 1919, by which date the population on a conservative estimate had risen to 1,400,000 with an almost complete absence of any corresponding increase in housing accommodation. In a despatch to the Governor of Bombay dated the 26th. October, 1917, Mr. Montagu, the Secretary of State, noted with approval that the Governor of Bombay and the members of the Local Government had impressed upon millowners their obligation to provide for the housing of their operatives. He described the existing conditions as highly unsatisfactory and as calling for immediate and energetic action, and concluded: "The matter is one in which early action appears to be desirable, and I shall be glad to learn your views and those of the Bombay Government at an early date.

The salient points which emerge from the summary hitherto given may be thus restated. The proposal that reclamation work on a large scale should be undertaken by means of dredging virtually precluded any experiment on a small scale because of the initial cost of the plant required. The possibility of getting the work done by private enterprise was being held up by the very natural and proper desire of the Government of Bombay to receive for the public benefit a substantial share at any rate in the large profits anticipated as likely to accrue from the successful carrying out of the enterprise on a large scale. The Government of India obviously regarded the financing of such an enterprise out of public funds as an exceedingly difficult matter in the then existing state of public affairs. At the same time all parties were agreed as to the serious and increasing urgency of some action in relief of the housing congestion, and this urgency had particularly impressed itself upon the mind of the ultimate authority—the Secretary of State.

INCEPTION OF PRESENT SCHEME

In the course of the third chapter entitled "Inception of Present Scheme" the committee says:—

By October 1918, the Government of Bombay had decided to obtain the advice of an independent expert, and in a telegram of the 16th. October they stated that they considered "a re-examination of Back Bay Reclamation Scheme a matter of special urgency" and asked that the "best qualified man" should be chosen and sent to Bombay.

On 9th. December, 1918, the Government of Bombay addressed the Government of India, pointing out that the pressure on building land in the City, especially in the neighbourhood of the Fort, had become intense and a rise in the value of land had included certain business men in Bombay to turn their attention to the larger scheme of reclamation prepared in 1912. They stated that applications for concession rights had been received from the two groups already mentioned and added that an application had also been made on behalf of Messrs Lowther and Griffiths on terms which involved Government carrying the risk. As the orders of the Government of India precluded the Local Government from taking up any large scheme on their own resources, the Local Government were of opinion that the question of allowing the reclamation to be carried out by private enterprise deserved serious consideration. They held that, while the terms proposed should not be such as to discourage any sound offer, at the same time, if the profits were likely to be high, Government, as trustees of the public interest, should secure a share of those profits. The estimates prepared by Mr. Kidd in 1912 were out of date. Apart from the general rise in the rates of material and labour, the higher cost of all dredging and pumping machinery and appliances, the methods used for constructional work of this character, might have so improved since 1912 that the work could be completed within a shorter period than that allowed for in the estimates. They had always recognised that the estimates prepared in 1912 should be scrutinised by an independent expert on the spot before adoption. They therefore desired to have the scheme examined by the best expert obtainable, who should be one with a large experience in harbour and reclamation work, and a knowledge of recent developments in dredging and pumping appliances.

The telegram of the 16th. October and the above letter were despatched during the governorship of Lord Willingdon.

MR. MONTAGU'S INSTRUCTIONS TO SIR GEORGE LLOYD.

Sir George (now Lord) Lloyd arrived in Bombay on the 16th. December, 1918.

Before his departure for India, Lord Lloyd, in accordance with the usual practice, spent some time at the India Office acquainting himself with the problems which would confront him in the Presidency when he assumed office. It became immediately apparent to him that the one insistent and urgent question which was causing concern alike to Mr. Montague, the Secretary of State, the Government of India and the Government of Bombay, and provoking questions in the House of Commons and the Legislative Council, was that of improving the housing conditions of the poorer classes in Bombay.

Lord Willingdon had made frequent references to the matter in public speeches. It was said, and with truth, that there was no city in India so densely populated and that the overcrowding in the unventilated, dark, damp and insanitary one-roomed tenements was a standing menace to the health of the community. One effect of these conditions was that infant mortality touched the amazing figure of 60 per cent.

We accept unreservedly the statement made by His Excellency Lord Lloyd, when giving evidence before us, as to the obligation he was under to take prompt and decisive steps to ameliorate conditions of life in Bombay, and this is borne out by the Minute of Mr. Montague of 6th. April, 1920, which was produced in evidence by Sir Louis Kershaw and which runs as follows:—

"I must implore that we do not incur the terrible responsibility of delaying for an hour the Back bay reclamation. Land trouble in Back Bay is shocking. I charged the Governor on appointment to deal with it urgently. Whatever is done, the reclamation scheme is the most important item and has been scandalously delayed. If, now that Bombay is ready to begin and the Government of India agree, we delay it, we shall be "particeps criminis." I cannot conceive any scheme of finance which will obviate the need of a dredger. Therefore let us get on with the dredger, already more expensive by

> "The Government of Bombay had already omitted one essential precaution, and this omission was to react detrimentally on the entire scheme. The reclamation was to be effected by dredging from Bombay Harbour, and no one had ever troubled to ask to whom the bed of the harbour belonged. How the Governor of Bombay came to be so ill-served in this matter passes our comprehension."
>
> —From Back Bay Report.

delay, and take any measures possible to expedite it."

The Committee then quotes LordLloyd's evidence giviug a graphic picture of the City"—

In their despatch dated 5th. March, 1919, the Government of India supported the proposals made by the Local Government in their letter of9th. December, 1918, and recommended that an authoritative opinion on the scheme should be obtained from the best expert available, and the closest possible estimate of its cost framed. They left the choice of the expert to the Secretary of State, but suggested that he should be entirely independent of any of the firms who had applied, or were likely to apply, for the concession, and therefore excluded the firms of Messrs. Lowther and Griffiths, Messrs Tata and Company and Messrs. Armstrong Withworth and Company, Ltd., of which Mr. Kidd was then a member. They added that the decision to have the scheme examined by an independent expert did not connote a final decision as to the agency by which the work was to be undertaken and financed.

TELEGRAM OF 8TH. APRIL, 1919.

Charged as Lord Lloyd was to deal speedily with the housing problem, and the reclamation of Back Bay having been accepted as an integral part of any scheme for the betterment of conditions, he sent on the 8th. April, 1919, the following telegram to the Secretary of State. As it contains the first mention of Sir George Buchanan as a possible expert we thine it advisable to set it out in its entirety

"Back Bay Reclamation Scheme.—Government of India had asked you to send out best expert available to examine and make final report on above. Government of India had also asked us to send all plans to Delhi for transmission to you in order that expert may study them before departure.

"(1) I think this procedure involved unnecessary delay in view of the fact that expert must be here to see conditions just before monsoon breaks as well as after it.

"(2) I have consulted Government of India, and Sir Claude Hill concurs with me in proposing you should send expert out at once to arrive Bombay not later than third week of May.

"(3) All plans and information essential to experts' study now here.

"(4) Lord Sydenham or W. L. Cameron, late Chief Engineer, Bombay, would advise regarding choice of expert.

"(5) Failing your ability to find expert in short time available, my Government would agree to using Sir George Buchanan, whose services would probably be available and whom the Government of India recommend.

"(6) My telegram has been drafted in consutation with the Government of India and is being communicated to them.

"(7) Please telegraph immediately whether expert can be found in time to arrive by middle of May or whether we should proceed with Buchanan."

A consideration of that telegram shows that Lord Lloyd, whilst pressing for an expert to arrive before the monsoon, was nevertheless inviting the Secretary of State to nominate and send out any expert acceptable to him. It was only as an alternative that he proposed Sir George Buchanan, who was at that time in India and whose work on the Munitions Board was nearing a conclusion, if not actually concluded. We think we are justified in assuming that the words "whom Government of India recommend" refer to the recommendation of Sir Claude Hill with whom, as the telegram shows, Lord Lloyd had been in consultation. Difficulties arose in England with regard to sending out an expert and on the 26th. May a telegram was sent by Lord Lloyd saying that "My Government in view of difficulty of getting Palmer out before October decided to employ Sir George Buchanan who is at present engaged upon the work and will probably after concluding preliminary investigation proceed home to make further inquiries regarding dredging plant and material."

GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY'S OFFER TO SIR GEORGE BUCHANAN.

The negotiation for the employment of Sir George Buchanan in fact commenced on the 7th. May, 1919, on which date Lord Lloyd sent a telegram to him at Simla stating that the Government of Bombay wished to secure his services "at once to examine and report upon the Back Bay Reclamation Scheme." Sir George Buchanan accepted the offer by telegram and on the 12th. May in a letter to Lord Lloyd, said:—

"The work is of a kind with which I am familiar, as I designed and carried out the very large river training and land reclamation scheme on the Rangoon river, whilst I was also responsible for initiat-

(Continued on next page)

MORE WASTE OF PUBLIC MONEY.

BLOCKS 1, 2, 7 AND 8 TO BE COMPLETED.

The following is a summary of the recommendations of the Back Bay Committee regarding the future:—

With regard to future operations, the following is a summary of the recommendations which we have made:—

(i) For financial reasons the completion of block 8 is a most urgent work.

(ii) The foreshore portion along blocks 3, 4, 5 and 6 should be filled in to an average width of 300 feet seaward of the present shore-line and brought up to the ground level of the reclamation. The strip should curve at both ends, so as to join on with block 2 at the northern and block 7 at the southern end. This should be done as speedily as possible.

(iii) The foreshore strip should be reclaimed with moorum filling.

(iv) A complete lay-out of the area to be reclaimed should be prepared. The foreshore strip should be developed as soon as completed and blocks 1, 2, and 7 gradually as land is taken up.

The lay-out already prepared for the complete scheme (1,145 acres) should be re-examined with the help of a Committee; and the lay-out of the area now recommended for reclamation should fit in with the lay-out approved for the complete reclamation, if ultimately undertaken.

(v) The Corporation of Bombay should share the cost of development, and Government should arrive at an understanding with the Corporation on this point.

(vi) The results of the work of the "Sir George Lloyd" and the "Colaba" during the current season should be verified. If the cost of filling by dredging approximates to that of moorum and the quality of the reclaimed land is satisfactory, they might be used for blocks 1 and 2 after block 7 is completed. If not, they should be disposed off. Notice should not be given to the staff until this point is decided.

(vii) The reclamation should be removed from the control of the Development Directorate and carried out in accordance with one or other of the plans suggested in the report. A small committee, including one or two experienced engineers, should be constituted "to advise Government on matters referred to them.

(viii) The work should in future, as far as possible, be carried out by contract agency.

(ix) Alternative estimates of the cost of the scheme now proposed are submitted. The extension of the 300-foot foreshore strip by additional strips of 400 feet and 300 feet, as need arises, is contemplated. Blocks 1 and 2, as being the most valuable in the whole project, should be completed as soon as possible. No part of them should be assigned for recreation purposes.

(x) Detailed revised estimates should be prepared at once. The form of tender is sued by the Development Directorate should be revised.

(xii) Every endeavour should be made to complete the scheme proposed in three or four years. When a demand arises for completing the whole reclamation, the work may be carried out by moorum filling exclusively.

THE EXPECTED WHITEWASH

(Continued from previous page.)

a

ing all the reclamation works at Basr which have transformed the river fron on the Shattal-Arab."

He stated that he assumed that the reclamation would be "effected by dredging outside a retaining wall marking the limit of reclamation and depositing inside the wall." In this connection he made the following prudent observations: "In that case one of the principal problems would be to decide on the best type of dredger and whether at the present greatly enhanced price of these machines the scheme, would be practicable from the financial point of view." He suggested that "having obtained all local information" he should go home in order to discuss the dredger problem with the various builders who had done work for him in the past, "as although I can decide on the best type of dredger, I cannot in the present state of the market put prices upon them."

Sir George Buchanan arrived in Bombay on the 19th. May, 1919. He got into immediate touch with Mr. Curtis (now Sir George Curtis) and other Government officials, and Mr. Kidd's report with its accompanying plans and sketches was made over to him.

On the 21st. May Sir George Buchanan received a letter from Lord Lloyd expressing pleasure that he had consented to undertake the Back Bay Report and noting that he (Lord Lloyd) thought the whole scheme depended upon the mammoth dredger, its cost and when it could be sent out. He concluded by saying that he believed it to be the biggest dredging scheme ever contemplated and as such would, he was sure, interest Sir George

On the 23rd. May, 1919, Sir George. Buchanan in a letter to His Excellency stated that the sea wall presented no engineering difficulty; but " as I thought would be the case, the crux of the whole scheme lay in the provision and successful working of the dredger or dredgers." In that letter he suggested leaving for England on the 31st, May. He added, "In the matter of dredgers, the best in the world are made by one or other of the four firms in the Clyde district, and some years ago I made a tour of Canada and the United States, in the course of which I inspected most of the large dredging plants from the River St. Lawrence to New Orleans on the Mississippi, but I found nothing which came up to our home work. The [illegible] may have altered matters, and it is [illegible]ble I may find we can do better, both [illegible]gards price and delivery, in America." letter is of importance as it indicates Sir George Buchanan was prepared to go to all dredger builders on the Clyde or to seek in Canada or the United States a dredger of the best design and price.

LORD LLOYD'S LETTER OF 25TH. MAY 1919.

Lord Lloyd replied on the 25th. May as follows:—

"I should wish to leave the date of your departure entirely to your own discretion, and if you think that the inquiries and final Report, which I am asking you to undertake, will be hastened rather than delayed by your getting to England at once, please make your plans accordingly. All I am anxious for is to know as early as possible whether a Back Bay Scheme is feasible and, on present prices, is a desirable enterprise. If not, to abandon it finally and turn our energies into other directions, or, if it is found practicable, to get on with the job without another 10 days' discussion. I shall hope to see you on Wednesday next and discuss the matter fully with you."

Apart from the directness with which he approached the two principal business factors—the practicability of the scheme and the importance of ruling prices— the letter deserves the most serious consideration as it shows that at this date Lord Lloyd was not in his own mind in any degree committed to a reclamation scheme and that he was prepared at once to abandon it finally, had Sir George Buchanan, in whom he put implicit trust, advised him against it. Indeed, a few days later, on 28th. May, he told Sir George Buchanan that "he would give me his entire and absolute confidence and if I said the scheme was impracticable he would turn it down at once and start on something fresh, but once my opinion was given he would refuse to allow any other expert to report and he asked me not to let him down." (Sir George Buchanan's statement, paragraph 31.)

By the 29th. May Sir George Buchanan expressed himself as satisfied that "the surveys and borings made by Mr. Kidd are sufficient to enable me to write my report."

TERMS OF REFERENCE TO SIR GEORGE BUCHANAN.

The terms of reference under which Sir George Buchanan was asked to prepare his Report are set out at the beginning of his Report. Briefly, he was to examine and report upon Mr. Kidd's scheme for the reclamation of 1,145 acres in Back Bay and in particular specifically to advise upon its practicability from an engineering point of view, the suitability of the type of sea wall or alternative suggestions for a better type, the suitability of the proposed method of reclamation by means of dredging or alternative proposals for the same. He was also asked to prepare a revised estimate for the whole scheme giving details showing:—

(a) the cost of dredging plant [illegible] cost of dredging,

> "Sir George Buchanan did not realise that he was the expert to whom from first to last the Government looked for advice and assistance. He did not appreciate that when he found causes for complaint it was his duty to require them to be remedied, and in virtue of his responsibility for supervision to see that they were remedied."
>
> —From Back Bay Report.

(c) cost of sea wall and plant,

(d) cost of mooram filling (i.e., dry filling and plant required.

In addition he was to put forward a programme of construction with an opinion as to the order in which the work should be executed and the time within which the various sections could be completed—and lastly as regards the Back Bay Reclamation—his views were asked as to whether the entire work should be given out as one complete contract or divided into a number of small contracts and whether it might not be advisable to carry out some items of the project or even the whole of it departmentally.

BUCHANAN'S QUALIFICATIONS.

At this point it may not be out of place to consider what were the qualifications of Sir George Buchanan which had caused him to be recommended by the Government of India as mentioned in the telegram of the 8th. April, 1919.

Sir George Buchanan was an engineer of many years' experience. He had been employed in the Rangoon River Training Scheme which was completed in 1913, and for this work he received the honour of Knighthood. Sir Harvey Adamson, who had been at the time of the execution of the works the Lieutenant Governor of Burma, speaking on the 21st. March, 1916, at the Institution of Civil Engineers, referred in terms of high appreciation to Sir George Buchanan's work.

In 1915, at the special request of the Secretary of State for India, he proceeded to Mesopotamia—reorganised the port of Basra, and superinteded and controlled the operations of suction cutter dredgers across the Hamar Lake—at the Shatt-Al-Arab Bar and other places and received, in 1917, in recognition of his services, the honour of the K.C.I.E. He was also the recipient of a letter from the Government of India, which spoke in high terms of the "valuable services" rendered by him. The letter concluded with this remarkable passage: "The success of our arms in Mesopotamia has been sensibly promoted by your valuable advice, great powers of organization and experience of the conditions of Indian ports."

It is therefore evident that the Government of India regarded Sir George Buchanan not merely as an engineer of ability, but also as a capable administrator and organiser.

NEGOTIATIONS WITH MESSRS. SIMONS & CO., LTD.,

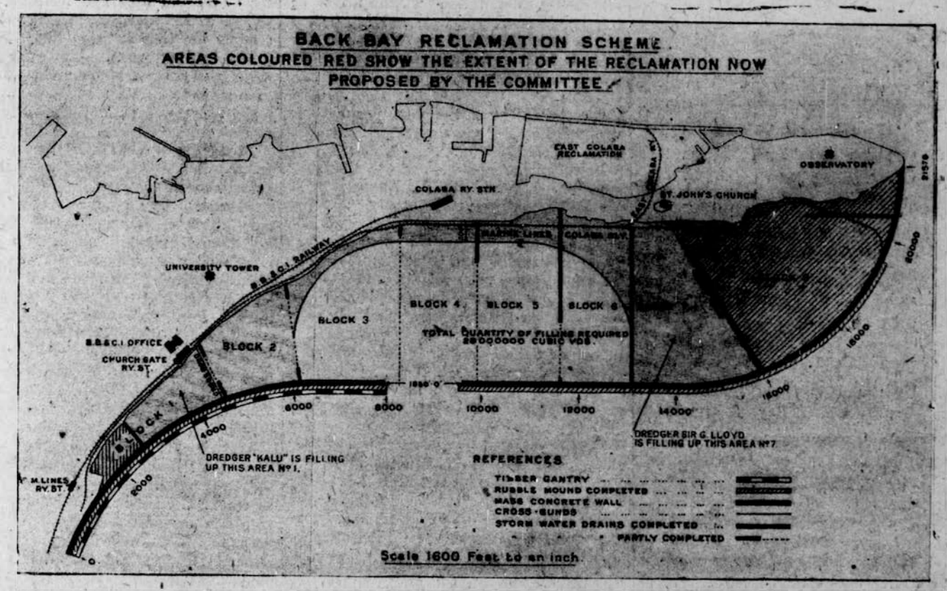
Sir George Buchanan arrived in London on the 25th. of June, 1919, and became a partner in the firm of P. W. & C. S. Meik of Westminster, who were thereafter known as Meik & Buchanan. In collaboration with Mr. C. S. Meik he prepared his Report. As he had previously stated, one of the most important matters was the selection of a dredger of the best design, and a day or two before the 25th. July, 1919, he had an interview with Mr. McMurray, the London representative of Messrs. William, Simons & Co., Ltd., of Renfrew, Scotland, dredger builders.

He gave Mr. McMurray a general idea of the sort of dredger which would be required—the nature of work it would have to do in Bombay, and followed up that interview with a letter of the 25th. July to the firm in Scotland in which he stated that he had been asked by the Government of Bombay to report on the Back Bay Reclamation scheme and wanted an estimate accompanied by a plan for the dredging plant required. He referred to his interview with Mr. McMurray, and said they were in general agreement as to the type of plant necessary.

He enclosed plans showing broadly what was required, and set out what he considered to be the main points for consideration, and he added: "I consider the type of dredger most suitable would be that of the 'Jinga' and 'Kalu,' with all recent improvements and modificarions."

Now, the "Jinga" and "Kalu" were dredgers which had been employed by the Bombay Port Trust from 1908 to 1913 on what was known as the Sewri Reclamation. We shall have to comment hereafter on the unfortunate and, to us, almost inexplicable absenceof consultation or communication between the Government of Bombay and the Port Trust in connection with the intention to dredge in the harbour, but we must call attention at once to the importance of the reference to these dredgers as coming from Sir George Buchanan. He had completed his local inquiries in Bombay without having learnt of the highly unsatisfactory working output of both the "Kalu" and "Jinga", though their performances were recorded in a Port Trust official document printed in Bombay in 1915, and will be refered to in greater detail later.

LLOYD'S FOLLY.



IN THE ABOVE ILLUSTRATION THE WHOLE PORTION EXCEPT BLOCKS 3, 4 5 AND 6 OUTSIDE THE CURVED LINE IS THE AREA WHICH THE MEARS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SHOULD BE RECLAIMED.

As regards a test, Sir George Buchanan, writing in London, said: "I shall be satisfied with a test in this country, and your guarantee that the plant will do the work required." As we shall show later, he never obtained that guarantee, nor a guarantee of "minimum capacity of 2,000 cubic yards of clay per hour," for which he also stipulated in the letter.

Towards the end of August, 1919, Sir George Buchanan went to Renfrew and discussed the whole matter at a meeting with the proposed builders, and on 12th. September, 1919, the Renfrew firm wrote a most carefully considered letter, drafted, undoubtedly, with the view to protect themselves in every possible way. They offered a dredger not guaranteed to do the work required—nor with a minimum capacity of 2,000 cubic yards per hour, but one which "in our opinion may be expected to meet your requirements."

A SOFT CLAY DREDGER.

Then they specified a "Simons Cutter Reclamation Dredger" designed for dredging to depths up to 70 feet below water level and to be capable of discharging at the rate of 2,000 cubic yards of soft clay per hour through a floating pipe line to a distance of 5,000 feet."

The words of importance are "at the rate of" and "soft clay."

At a later date in December, 1919 the firm of Meik & Buchanan were inviting interviews and having correspondence with other firms of dredger builders. These will be referred to hereafter, but when Sir George Buchanan presented his Report to the Government of Bombay of appended to it the plans, specifications and tenders of Messrs, Simons & Co., alone, and Messrs. Simons' offer of a dredger designed for soft clay to which we have just referred, appears at two places in the Report, namely, in their letter of 12th. September, 1920, and in the "general description" of the vessel at pages 17 and 20.

PRESENTATION OF REPORT BY SIR GEORGE BUCHANAN.

The Report is dated "September, 1919," but it does not appear to have been presented to the Government of Bombay until the arrival of Sir George Buchanan in India on 14th. November. Thereafter he was for a week the guest of Lord Lloyd "in order," as Sir George Buchanan says, "to discuss the scheme to the fullest possible extent."

Sir George Buchanan was not initiating a new project. He was reporting on a scheme prepared by Mr. Kidd which, both as regards feasibility and price, had been accepted by the Government of Bombay. Further, in March, 1916, the late Mr. R. P. Russell Secretary to the Government of India in the Public Works, Department, had said that Mr. Kidd's estimate of Rs. 325.23 lakhs "seems to have been prepared with great care and is probably as reliable as can be expected." He thought there was "every likelihood " as far as could be judged of the work being carried out at its estimated cost of Rs. 325 lakhs.

In Bombay, Sir George Buchanan's Report was submitted to Sir George Curtis and the Department over which he presided. It was considered by Lord Lloyd himself and, on the 24th. November, Sir George Buchanan, in company with the late Mr. Mead, Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay, went to Delhi and had interviews with Sir Claude Hill, Member in Charge in the Govern, ment of India, Sir Sydney Crookshank-Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department.

THE VARYING DESCRIPTIONS OF CLAY.

We now come to two outsnanding circumstances which were patent on the documents and which, in our opinion, ought to have been queried, discussed and elucidated by everyone whose duty it was to study the documents. The points to which we are going to call attention demand no technical knowledge. They do demand an intelligent and careful study of the documents.

The essence of the whole scheme was the existence in the harbour of sufficient material suitable for reclamation and the procuring of a dredger designed and adapted for that particular material.

According to Mr. Kidd's Report the clay was "staff." According to Sir George Buchanan the clay was "hard." (Page 9, Report).

Messrs. Simons & Co. (page 17 of Report) offered a dredger designed to give the required output not in stiff or hard clay, but in soft clay.

Sir George Buchanan has given us an explanation with which hereafter we deal in detail, but it is one which after the fullest consideration we are unable to accept and the amazing fact is that no one, either in the Government of Bombay or in the Government of India, engineer or layman, ever noticed this point, which stood out on the documents before them. No one ever asked Sir George Buchanan is a dredger designed for a specified output in soft clay would give an equal result in "stiff" clay or "hard" clay. No one asked him if these varying descriptions of clay were immaterial, on the theory that the dredger could work in any type of clay with equal speed and facility. The evidence, as will be seen later, is conclusive that a reduced output in material stiffer than soft clay is inevitable, and the success of the whole scheme, as was evident from the Report, hinged on the dredger giving an unvarying output of 2,000 cubic yards per hour for 15 hours a day for 170 days a year.

THE 1912 AND 1919 ESTIMATES.

The second point is that the Government of Bombay and the Government of India had each expressed approval of Mr. Kidd's figure of 325.23 lakhs. This was the 1912 pre-war price.

Sir George Buchanan in 1919, when prices of material and plant had risen by about 275 per cent, and of labour by nearly 100 per cent. over the pre-war rates, believed that he could do the work for 367.61—a 10 per cent. increase only on Mr. Kidd's figures of 1912. We have not failed to note that the average sterling exchange value of the rupee rose from 1s. 4d. in 1912-13 to 2s. in 1919-20. But even when full account is taken of this rise in exchange and its effect on the rupee cost of plant purchased in England, it appears to us astonishing that the responsible officers of the Governments of India and of Bombay were not struck by the very slight percentage increase of Sir George Buchanan's estimate over that of Mr. Kidd.

The real truth of the matter was that the officials, both in Bombay and Delhi, were largely in the hands of Sir George Buchanan. We do not suggest for one moment that he in the slightest degree intentionally misled them, but they were not able to discuss the matter on anything like an equal footing with him.

Between 1912 and 1926 the rupee was subject to great fluctuations. In the year year 1912 at the date of Mr. Kidd's Report it averaged 1s. 4d. and thefore, if the dredging plant, which could certainly not have been purchased in India, had to be paid for in Great Britain, the relative lowness of the rupee compared with the 1919 prices would have meant that far more rupees had to be disbursed at that time than later for an equivalent sum of money in sterling. Sir George Buchanan, in his Report, took the rupee as of the value 1s. 8d., and therefore for purposes of comparison the rupee had appreciated by 25 per cent. At the same time, the reports of Mr. Kidd and Sir George Buchanan were both based on rupee claculations and the cost of plant and material which was to be purchased in India and of the labour which was to be employed there make up a considerable portion of the total estimate. The fact which cannot be controverted is that Sir George Buchanan's estimate of 367—lakhs was an under-estimate, and this fact could have been demonstrated in 1919 at Bombay or Delhi by a few simple questions. These were in fact put to Sir George Buchanan in the course of the inquiry and the dilemma became apparent.

SIR SYDNEY CROOKSHANK'S RESPONSIBILITY.

In 1919 Sir Sydney Crookshank was the Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department.

When in November, 1919 Sir George Buchanan went to Delhi it was Sir Sydney Crookshank's duty, as the Technical adviser to the Government of India, to examine and report on Sir George Buchanan's scheme.

Sir Sydney Crookshank had had no previous experience of reclamation upon an open sea front. He had had wide general experience, and in particular, he had done considerable work in connection with the construction of docks in France.

It should, however, be stated that Sir Sydney Crookshank, whilst reporting generally in favour of Sir George Buchanan' scheme, was nevettheless unwilling that the order for the dredger should be given without further expert opinion, and in his Report to the Government of India he stated: "I cannot pronounce on the design or cost of the proposed dredger, and I am not in a position to question Messrs. Simons' merit and figures. In a case of this sort I should prefer, before coming to a decision, to refer to Sir Alexander Gibb and also, perhaps, to Sir Ernest Moir and Sir Brodie Henderson in a consulting capacity." In evidence he asserted that if he had had the execution of the works in his own hands he would not have attempted it without getting opinions from specialists such as he had named. In a later document he took up a still stronger position and wrote a separate memorandum to the Government of India in which he said he wished entirely to dissociate himself from the purchase of the dredger. He was also insistent in his evidence before us that there should have been a guarantee that the dredger would do the work in Bombay, and that the test should have been carried out there.

As he was certainly the most important engineer who discussed the scheme with Sir George Buchanan in India, and as his recommendation of the scheme caused it to be supported by the Government of India and put forward to the Secretry of State, it is necessary to give some extracts from his evidence so that an opinion may be formed as to whether the scheme had that careful scrutiny and expert examination which its importance demanded:—

SIR SYDNEY CROOKSHANK'S ADMISSION.

Sir Frederick Hopkinson: May I take it that your position at Simla was that of technical watch-dog for the Government of India on all technical matters connected with such schemes as this?—Answer: Yes. They went through my hands as the Technical Secretary to the Government of India.

Question: So that you are in a sense responsible for Sir George Buchanan's estimate, inasmuch as you accepted it?—Answer: Yes.

Question: And you advised the Government of India that it was accepted by you?—Answer: Yes.

He stated that in his opinion Mr. Kidd's estimate was an "extremely good" one and the figure of 325.23 lakhs reasonable. He was then asked about the rise in prices between 1912 and 1919 and inquiry was made as to how he thought it possible to do in 1919 work for 367.61 lakhs which would, in his opinion, have cost 325.23 lakhs in 1912. He explained, as was the fact, that he advised an increase of 33, lakhs, bringing Sir George Buchanan's figure up to 400 lakhs, and regarded that as sufficient.

We had already had evidence which showed that the prices of plant and material had, as a general average, increased by about 2-3/4 times in the period between, 912 and 1919. The following are some answers given by Sir Sydney Crookshank on this part of the case:—

Sir Grimwood Mears: If as you had told us you thought that 325 lakhs, that is £2,437,000, was a reasonable estimate of Mr. Kidd's, how could Sir George Buchanan have done the work for anything less than 650 lakhs, or £5,000,000?—Answer: Well, on the face of multiplying by 2 in one case and by 3 or more in another he could not.

Question: I have only multiplied by 2. I have taken your own figure. Take

> "The Government of Bombay ought to have approached the Port Trust and the Royal Indian Marine for permission to dredge in the Harbour before deciding on dredging as the mode of reclamation "
>
> —From Back Bay Report.

325 is 650. How could Sir George Buchanan have done the work for anything less than 650 lakhs, roughly £5,000,000? He could not, could he?—Answer: I can only say in reply to that that I went into these figures with him. He, of course, criticised Messrs. Kidd's figures for dredging and said they were excessive. On going through it with him I came to the conclusion that this estimate of his of 367 lakhs, plus what I have added in myself, would be sufficient to work on.

Question: Then you thought on the 28th. November, 1919, that the whole of the work as specified by Mr. Kidd could have been done for 400 lakhs?—Answer: That is the view I held then as a result of going into the figures of Mr. Kidd's estimate and Mr. Buchanan's estimate.

Question: That is £3,000,000?—Answer Yes.

Question: Had you seen Sir George Buchanan's Report at this date? Sir George Buchanan's Report is dated September, 1919, and was undoubtedly in the hands of Government in October, 1919. Had you seen his Report?—Answer: I imagine I had.

Question: If you had been in consultation with him it would be the basis of your discussion, would it not?—Answer: Yes.

Sir Frederick Hopkinson: Had you known that the prices of everything to be used in connection with this work, would have been trebled, I presume you would not have agreed to the 367 lakhs?—Answer: I am not altogether prepared to say so at all.

Question: What? Knowing that the prices had been trebled?—Answer: I knew they had been doubled.

Question: Even knowing they were doubled, having approved of Mr. Kidd's estimate, would not you have thought it must be at least 650 lakhs?—Answer: No, because I went into Mr. Kidd's estimate with Sir George Buchanan's 1912 estimate, and as a result of that examination I came to the conclusion that this (i.e., 367.61 lakhs), plus what I added, was correct. I cannot possibly go back on that, because I did it with a perfectly good intent, and I went into it very carefully and put it forward as an official recommendation.

BUCHANAN'S ESTIMATE UNRELIABLE.

Question: What I am suggesting is that Sir George Buchanan's estimate was quite unreliable and that you, in your official capacity, assented to it?—Answer: After going into it, yes. I was not prepared to consider at that time that it was unreliable. Subsequent events have certainly proved it is.

Question: Having regard to the fact that you had previously thought Mr. Kidd's estimate of 325 lakhs in 1912 was a very proper one, you surely must have thought that 367 lakhs, when prices had trebled, could not possibly be a proper one?—Answer: I cannot say anything further, except, as I say, I went into the thing, and that is the opinion I gave, and I stick to it.

Sir Grimwood Mears: May I ask one question on that? This is the document from which Sir Frederick was speaking, giving the figures for 1912 and 1919. If you had had that document alone before you, would you have believed that the work could have been done for anything under 650 lakhs?—Answer: You mean with all that detail of every description?

Question: All the details of the prices for the years between 1912 and 1919. Would not this document alone have shown you that if Mr. Kidd's estimate for 325 lakhs was a good estimate, Sir George Buchanan could not possibly have done it under 700 lakhs?—Answer: I must say, on the face if it, that it seems perfectly correct, but I admit I did not go into it in detail to the extent which is referred to there.

He was then asked some questions as to the porousness of the rubble mound under the sea wall and his general position was summarised as follows:—

Sir Grimwood Mears: But in all these matters you must have been to a very large extent in Sir George Buchanan's hands?

He replied: "In that I had no personal experience on a large scale of any work of that nature, I admit that I was."

Having stated in the Report to the Government of India that "the whole project really hinges on the efficiency of the dredger," he was asked whether the whole project did not hinge on the existence of sufficient material suitable in quality to provide the dredger with work. He thought that that matter "would be wrapped up in the efficiency of the dredger as a whole":

Sir Grimwood Mears: Surely not. Surely they are quite distinct?—Answer: Well, in a way.

Question: However efficient a dred-

(Continued on next page.)

THE EXPECTED WHITEWASH

(Continued from previous page.)

ger is, it cannot dredge unless it has got material to dredge?—Answer: No; but then I had to take it more or less for granted that the material was there or available.

Question: Did you really have to take it for granted? You were advising the Government of India, were you not?—Answer: Yes.

Question: Did you have any conversation with Sir George Buchanan as to whether he was quite certain about the quality and quantity of the dredgeable material?—Answer: That I cannot remember; but, generally speaking, I have carried away the opinion that the local conditions were favourable.

Later he pointed out that he considered Mr. Kidd's Report to be of immense value and that, "as far as the material required was concerned, it was good enough to go on."

Mr. Kidd's Report was available to Sir Sydney Crookshank. If he ever read it, he certainly never noticed that Mr. Kidd spoke of the clay as "stiff", nor did he observe in Sir George Buchanan's Report that Sir George Buchanan described the clay as "hard", and finally, he did not notice the cautious limitation of the offer of Simons, who tendered for a dredger capable of dealing with "soft clay."

GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY'S LETTER OF 4TH. DECEMBER, 1919.

On the 4th. of December, 1919, after Sir George Buchanan's return to Bombay from Delhi, the Government of Bombay sent an important letter to the Government of India. The following extracts are of interest:—

"Sir George Buchanan has now presented his Report and I am to say that this Government understands that the Government of India are prepared to accord administrative approval. The Governor in Council does not consider it necessary to discuss the 1912 project again. As pointed out by Sir George Buchanan in paragraph 28 of his Report, Messrs. Lowther and Kidd's plans reveal such an unusual absence of detail that it makes an examination of figures extremely difficult from a technical point of view. In the circumstances, the Governor in Council proposes to discard this scheme entirely and to concentrate attention solely upon Sir George Buchanan's own scheme, which includes the same area as that covered by the 1912 project, viz., 1,145 acres.

"On the technical aspect of the new scheme, the Governor in Council offers no opinion. He is fully prepared to accept Sir George Buchanan's carefully considered views on the practicability of the scheme from an engineering point of view, on the type of wall required for the reclamation, and on the method of reclamation.

"The Governor in Council is confident that the Government of India will have little hesitation in accepting Sir George Buchanan's opinion, in view of the fact that opportunity has been afforded to your Department to discuss all technical details with Sir George Buchanan himself.

I am to add that the Governor in Council is prepared, in view to a possible increase of rates for labour or materials, to add 10 per cent. to the total of the scheme as estimated by Sir George Buchanan, and the total cost of the project may be roughly taken at Rs. 4 crores for the purposes.

"In stating that the Governor in Council offered no opinion on the technical aspect of the scheme Lord Lloyd was acting in accordance with his expressed intention to rely solely, absolutely and finally on Sir George Buchanan.

His reasons for wishing for an early decision were evident. The reclamation of Back Bay had been discussed ad nauseam. It has, been the subject, as Sir George, Buchanan points out, of consideration by numerous committees. It had been from 1887 a matter of ever-recurring interest, and by 1919 the time had arrived for a final decision, either to undertake the scheme or to adandon it.

The letter gave certain figures of estimated cost and realisation of the area, when reclaimed, and added that it was "evident that the proposed scheme will be immensely profitable to Government."

"In these circumstances the Governor in Council trusts that the Government of India will have no hesitation in moving the Secretary of State to accord his sanction with the least possible delay. Meanwhile it is of first importance that the scheme should be accepted by the Government of India and sanction given by them to the purchase of dredging plant in anticipation of the Secretary of State's sanction of the whole scheme. It is understood that there is a precedent for this procedure. I am to ask that telegraphic intimation may be given as regards the immediate sanction required to the proposed purchase of the dredging plant, as the offer quoted by Sir George Buchanan is only open for a very short period longer."

CORRESPONDENCE WITH OTHER DREDGER BUILDERS.

On the 24th. December after discussion with Lord Lloyd, a cablegram was sent by Sir George Buchanan to his London office asking that tenders should be obtained from various dredger builders, and thereupon Messrs. Meik and Buchanan approached three firms of dredger builders

> "We consider that Sir George Buchanan ought to have made far more extended and careful local investigations. These occupied him for less than a fortnight in May 1919.
>
> —From Back Bay Report.

Messrs. Fergusson Brothers, Messrs. Flemming and Fergusson, and Messrs. Lobnitz.

The first-named had no vacant berths, and so put forward no tender.

Messrs. Fleming and Fergusson, on the 22nd. January, 1920, asked for certain information which appears to have been of a reasonably simple character. The late Mr. C. S. Meik, however, replied, saying that he could not answer the queries offhand and that a copy of their letter was being sent to Sir George Buchanan in India for him to make the necessary inquiries.

This letter would, in the ordinary course, have reached Sir George Buchanan in India some days before he wrote a memorandum for the Government of Bombay about the tenders.

All, in fact, that Fleming and Fergusson wanted to know was—(1) average working output, (2) length of pipe line, (3) head against pump, (4) revolutions and diameter of pump impeller, (5) velocity of material through piping. At all events Mr. Meik could have answered the first three questions and the dredger builders themselves have decided on the fourth and fifth.

Sir George Buchanan, refering to them in his memorandum, said that they "wished for a great deal of information which was not available." Messrs. Fleming and Fergusson therefore dropped out. Messrs. Lobnitz remained. They were disposed of in the memorandum by the following note:—

"Lobnitz tender £840,000 for two complete dredgers, each of 2,000 cubic yards capacity, and pipe line, one dredger being used for intermediate station.

"I have no details of Messrs. Lobnitz's tender nor is any time for delivery given; but I do not in any case see the necessity for two dredgers and I recommend that Messrs. Simons' tender be accepted."

All in fact that Sir George Buchanan had to go upon was a cable from his firm in London, and it is in our opinion unfortunate that he did not see the excellent specification which Messrs. Lobnitz, a firm of high repute, sent to Messrs. Meik and Buchanan on 19th. February, 1920. The dredgers they proposed to build were to be fitted with double stage pumps and actually as regards horse-power they worked out at a less cost than the "Sir George Lloyd." The character of the material was described by Mr. Meik as "soft" clay in a letter to Messrs. Lobnitz of the 22nd. January, 1920.

On the 14th. January, 1920 the firm of Meik and Buchanan were appointed engineers to the scheme, subject to the sanction of the Government of India and the Secretary of State, and on the 21st. February, 1920, Lord Lloyd and Sir George Buchanan had a meeting to discuss how best the work could be pushed forward. Sir George Buchanan favoured the construction of part of the sea wall by local contractors so that work could be commenced in October, 1920. Owing to a subsequent decision to do the whole of the work departmentally the sea wall was not commenced until October, 1921.

THE ORDER FOR THE DREDGER.

Sir George Buchanan left Bombay on the 28th. February, 1920, and on arrival in London wrote a letter to the Private Secretary to Mr. Montagu. One paragraph of the letter is as follows:—

"I have had the advantage of discussing the subject fully, with the Governor in Council, Bombay, the Government of India and personally with Sir George Lloyd, and if the scheme is sanctioned by the Secretary of State, His Excellency wishes no time to be lost in placing the order for the dredger, as it is necessary for everything to be ready to begin the reclamation as soon as the first section of the wall is finished."

The letter then referred to the tender of Messrs. Simons and Company, Ltd., and said that "acting upon Sir George Lloyd's personal instructions my firm took in tenders from other builders, the result of which was communicated to the Governor in Council when I recommended Messrs. Simons' tender to be accepted."

JOINT RESPONSIBILITY OF SIR JOHN BILES AND SIR GEORGE BUCHANAN.

On 25th. March 1920, having ascertained that Sir John Biles, the Consulting Naval Architect to the India Office, would, in accordance with the usual practice, decide on the specification and superintend the construction of the dredger and booster, Sir George Buchanan wrote to Lord Lloyd and rightly pressed the point that he must, as Engineer, also have a voice in the matter. Eventually this point was settled by Sir John Biles and Sir George Buchanan assuming joint responsibility for the design of the vessels. The letter concluded: "Meanwhile, time is passing and I am afraid you will be very disappointed at the continued delay in getting the Secretary of State's sanction to the entire scheme, and at this rate it will be almost impossible to have the dredger ready for work by the end of the 1921 monsoon."

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA SATISFIED.

On the 15th. April, 1920, the Government of India in a despatch to the Secretary of State said that the scheme had been discussed by their Secretary in the Public Works Department with Sir George Buchanan. "We are convinced that not only is the project one which presents no engineering difficulties, but that its execution can be effected at a cost which will be more than covered by the amount received form the Local Government from the sale of land not required by them." The Government of India were satisfied that the work could be carried out with the addition of 10 per cent. to Sir George Buchanan's estimate. The despatch concluded by saying, "the work is one which, in our opinion, should be carried out, with the least possible delay. It is essential for the development of the City of Bombay, and we are fully satisfied that it is a highly remunerative undertaking. We therefore strongly recommend it for your sanction, and would ask that the order for the dredger may be placed as soon as you have completed your enquiries."

MR. MONTAGU AND SIR GEORGE BUCHANAN.

On the 20th. of April, 1920, Mr. Montagu gave Sir George Buchanan an interview. Sir George had prepared a memorandum which he handed to the Secretary of State. In it he narrated the substance of a conversation he had had with Sir John Steevens then officiating as Director of Stores at the India Office:—

"I remarked that the most vital matter in connection with the whole scheme was to place the order for the dredger, as if this was not done promptly a whole, year's time would be lost, all our plans being made on the assumption that the dredger (which would take a year to build) would arrive in Bombay in time to start operations at the end of the 1921 monsoon.

At the close of the memorandum he said: "It is perhaps a pity that the Back Bay scheme is involved with so many other projects because taken by itself it must be exceedingly profitable to the Government."

Mr. Montagu, having read and discussed the memorandum, made an endorsement on it stating that Sir George Buchanan had explained "that the project wat being held up on account of the order nos being placed for the dredger and I direct that the papers be circulated and the case be brought up in Council for final decision on Tuesday next."

That having been done, "Mr. Montagu," says Sir George Buchanan, "talked to me rather freely." He said that he had discussed the Back Bay Scheme with Sir George Lloyd, and he had impressed upon him the necessity of the work and the importance of its being done by Government.

Mr. Montagu said he was whole-heartedly in favour of the project, which had always been most attractive to him.

"I then explained to him my position, viz., that after my scheme had been approved, Sir George Lloyd had asked me whether my firm would be the engineers, as he did not wish the Bombay Public Works Department to have anything to do with the work. I had agreed on behalf of my firm and had promised to make the carrying out of the work my principal object, if necesary declining works elsewhere, and I had agreed to go out and spend several months every winter in Bombay."

SANCTION TO SCHEME AND TO ORDER FOR DREDGER.

On the 4th. of May, 1920 the Secretary of State in Council approved the scheme for the Reclamation of Back Bay subject to satisfactory financial arrangements, and at the same time sanctioned the placing of the order for the dredging plant, and this decision was communicated to Sir George Buchanan by the Director General of Stores. On the same day Mr. Montagu cabled to the Government of India saying:—"I desire to acknowledge the admirable work of the Government of Bombay in devising scheme, which is conceived on bold lines, and subject to suitable scheme of finance being evolved, I am prepared to accept proposals in principle." Thereupon the order for the dredging plant was placed with Messrs. Simons & Co.,

On the 14th. June, 1920, Sir George Bucanan, Sir John Biles and Mr. West, of the India Office, had a meeting at which they "went over the tender and specification for the dredger."

Sir John Biles was not shown Mr. Kidd's Report, nor did he learn of the character of the clay as described therein, nor apparently, did he see Sir George Buchanan's Report with the description therein of hard clay.

He worked upon the letter of Messrs. Simons of the 12th. September, 1919, and the detailed descriptions which had accompanied that letter, and therefore, from first to last had no idea that anything more was required than a dredger capable of discharging 2,000 cubic yards per hour of soft clay through the specified length of pipe, dredging, when necessary, down to 70 feet below low-water level.

ESSENTIAL PRECAUTION OMITTED.

We have now reached the stage when this long-discussed project was finally sanctioned by the Government of India and the Secretary of State, and the outlay upon a project, expected to be remunerative after its completion in a few years, substantially commenced with the purchase of the dredging plant. Yet the Government of Bombay had already omitted one essential precaution, and this ommission was to react detrimentally on the entire scheme.

The reclamation was to be effected by dredging from Bombay Harbour, and no one had ever trouble to ask to whom the bed of the harbour belonged. How the Governor of Bombay came to be so ill-served in this matter passes our comprehension. There was in existence a body in whom the bed of the sea was vested by Statute. That was the Bombay Port Trust. There was another body seriously interested in any operations affecting Bombay Harbour, namely, the Royal Indian Marine.

One of the matters which has profoundly stirred public opinion is the absence of any consultations with either of those bodies. The Government of Bombay did not put their plans before them and did not attempt to obtain the benefit of the experience of the Port Trust which they had gained in the year 1908 to 1913, during which the "Kalu" and Jinga" were used by them on the Sewri reclamation.

If in 1920 the scheme had been submitted to these bodies the point as to the right to dredge must at once have arisen.

The Port Trust had had difficulties with the "Kalu" and "Jinga" which were actually referred to in a latter from the Government of Bombay to the Government of India on 6th. December 1911, in which it was stated that Government were well aware that economy in this class of work (i.e., dredging) could be attained only by securing that the suction dredgers and other plant required should be of the best design. "The difficulties which have arisen with the Port Trust dredgers serve as a warning on this point."

The actual output of the dredgers "Kalu" and "Jinga" when working for the Port Trust are given elsewhere in this Report, and make dismal reading.

PORT TRUST NOT CONSULTED.

The absence of any official communication between the Government of Bombay and the Port Trust is one of the most regrettable incidents in the whole history of the scheme. Sir George Buchanan did not inquire if there would be any objection to dredging in the harbour, and coming on the scene as he did in 1919 and finding no doubt on this point raised by Mr. Kidd or anyone, we think he was entitled to assume that the Government had the power to dredge.

But on the other point as to the difficulties which the Port Trust had had with their dredgers we do not exonerate him. He had actually incorporated in his Report the extract we have given—"the difficulties which have arisen with the Port Trust dredgers should serve as a warning on this point"—and the passage as to the necessity for the best design of dredger.

He did not inquire from the Port Trust or anyone what were the difficulties. Although he stated in evidence that he had had many conversations with the late Mr. Messent of the Port Trust he admitted that he did not ask him the one question of importance, which was the output which the "Kalu" and "Jinga" had given during their five years' work.

Also in his Report he had incorporated a passage which occurred in the same letter, "that the large reclamations being carried out by the Port Trust afford exceptionally good data for estimating work of this kind." Notwithstanding this express statement of the existence of exceptionally complete data, he certainly never studied it, and in this connection a curious and illuminating circumstance arose when he was giving evidence.

SIR GEORGE BUCHANAN'S GRAVE OMISSION.

In the earlier part of his examination he said that he was not aware of the official publication of 1915, giving the results of the working of the "Kalu" and "Jinga". A few days later he said he had come across the pamphlet, and as the copy bore Mr. Messent's initials he must have got it from him. His omission to study this document accounts in a great measure for the present partial failure of the scheme.

A few minutes study of this document at any time between 20th. May, 1919, and the date of his signing the Report might have led him to very different conclusions.

He would at once have learnt that the "Kalu" and "Jinga," each guaranteed to do 2,000 cubic yards per hour, had averaged 1,126 only, and that the difference between the amount of the material dredged, as ascertained by soundings, and the amount deposited, as ascertained by measurement, showed a diminution of 24.48 per cent.

It might have occurred to him that if the "Sir George Lloyd," also guaranteed for 2,000 cubic yards an hour, gave the same average of 1,126 cubic yards per hour and a loss of 24.48 per cent. of material was also sustained the reclamation of Back Bay would take about twelve years instead of five and would be an unwise adventure.

His preliminary inquiries in Bombay lasted less than a fortnight—a wholly inadequate time, in our opinion, for him to study conditions on the spot.

The Port Trust kept silence throughout 1920 and up to 5th. March, 1921. They then asserted their rights and later the Royal Indian Marine did the same. The Port Trust took the view that the dredging area proposed approached too near the end of the Ballard mole and breakwater pier and would add enormously to the cost of the foundations of any extensions that might be found to be necessary; while the Royal Indian Marine Authorities were afraid that the anchorage for men of war might be interfered with. The case of both the Port Trust and the Royal Indian Marine was unanswerable and eventually they restricted the area over which dredging could be permitted and also restricted the depth over a certain area to 35 feet—the "Sir George Lloyd" having been designed to dredge down to 70 feet.

SCHEME BEFORE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Final sanction was given in June, 1920, to the proposed taxation and a bill amending two local Acts was introduced by Lord Lloyd on 3rd. August, 1920.

The Back Bay Reclamation Scheme met with approval in the Legislative Council and Government was congratulated on the courage shown in undertaking it. It could not be expected that a scheme, which it was hoped would give relief in the expensive business and residential area, and thus lower existing rents, would pass altogether without criticism, but we are satisfied that, generally, the citizens of Bombay approved the scheme, and accepted the assurances of Government that it would prove highly lucrative. The Bill was in fact carried through all its stages without one dissentient vote, and it became law before the introduction of the Reforms in January, 1921.

ESTIMATE OF PROFIT.

On the 28th. February, 1921, Sir Chimanlal Setalvad who had recently assumed office as General Members, stated in the Legislative Council that "on a very modest estimate the result of the reclamation would be a profit of at least 20 crores of rupees to the City." Taking the rupee at 15 to the £1, that was an estimate of profit of approximately 20 million pounds sterling.

This statement is based on figures said to have been supplied to the General Member by Sir George Curtis, his immediate predecessor in that office. They may be taken as illustrating the belief current at the time, which was a period of great prosperity, that the scheme would at all events prove a highly remunerative undertaking.

APPOINTMENT OF SIR LAWLESS HEPPER.

Sir Lawless Hepper was appointed Director of the Development Directorate in November, 1920. The firm of Messrs. Meik and Buchanan were appointed engineers to the scheme under an agreement dated the 17th. March, 1921.

The respective responsibilities of Sir Lawless Hepper and Sir George Buchanan in relation to the work and in relation to each other have been the subject of much discussion.

As regards Sir Lawless Hepper. Lord Lloyd said: "Sir Lawless Hepper, if he had not been an engineer and not had various other qualifications which seemed necessary for the task to which he was going to be put, probably would not have been appointed speaking in general. Sir Lawless Hepper was selected as Director of Development because the success of the development scheme depended, to a very great extent, on the capacity of whoever was appointed at the head. The work, as you know, was of a very exceptional character, and its operations were on very large scale. We had to combine in our Director a great many different qualities. It was necessary that he Director first of all should have a very close acquaintance with local conditions. We might have got somebody from America or from a great distance, but it would have taken him two or three years in which to learn the local conditions. It was, therefore, considered important that we should get a man who already knew the local conditions. It was very important that he should understand traction and transit problems, because the whole of that island problem (not the whole if it but a large part of it) is a traction problem. He had these two qualifications in a very high degree. He knew the place intimately. He was acquainted with the traction problem, as you have just pointed out. He had a distinguished career as a railway engineer, and he was then holding a very important post on a railway, as you have also pointed out. He had been further proved during the war by his work as the Local Controller of Munitions, and he stood, I think I can say, exceptionally high in the estimation of the Government of India, and, what was also of great importance, he stood very high in the estimation of the public of Bombay. We had to raise public loans, and it was very important that the Director of these works should have the confidence of the public from whom we were asking money. The local public, in a narrower sense, had great confidence in him. As a railway agent, as member of the Port Trust and City Improvement Trust, he was very well acquainted with all the local conditions, and combining those four qualifications, he seemed to be almost unique in experience of that particular post. Those were the considerations which led to his appointment. Therefore, to some extent, his engineering, in a general sense, was a qualification—not very specific."

> "The reports of the Development Directorate, drafted by Sir Lawless Hepper, cannot be justified. They did not react a true picture of the progress of the work and concealed material circumstances".
>
> —From Back Bay Report.

It will be remembered that the Back Bay Reclamation Scheme was only one of several vast enterprises and Sir Lawless Hepper was not and could not have been chosen by reason of any special knowledge of marine reclamation because he possessed none. Lord Lloyd was speaking principally in reference to the whole group of undertakings comprised within the ambit of the Development Directorate's duties. This answer, however, gives Sir Lawless Hepper's general qualifications for the scheme as a whole.

As regards Back Bay, Sir Lawless Hepper appears to have regarded himself as the "administrative head."

He did not consider himself in any degree responsible for the execution of the works. He seems to have thought that to be the concern of Sir George Buchanan and Mr. Lewis.

THE WATCH-DOG.

Lord Lloyd has told us what he conceived to be the position of Sir Lawless Hepper and Messrs. Meik and Buchanan:—

"Messrs. Meik and Buchanan designed the works and the Director was responsible to Government for ensuring that the works were carried out according to the firm's designs by the Chief Engineers. The programme of work was set forth from time to time by Sir George Buchanan. The relations of Sir George Buchanan and Sir Lawless Hepper to Government might be described in general terms by saying that the former was responsible for the strategy and the latter for the tactics of the scheme . . . . He was the Government watchdog. That was his main function. It was his duty to see that the organisation was working efficiently and economically. Any departure from the technical proposals of Sir George Buchanan or any proposed action in disagreement with the latter would have been referred presumably to Government for their orders. That is about as precisely as I can give you the relations between Sir George Buchanan and the Director of the Development Department."

A MOST PUZZLING DOCUMENT.

The agreement of 17th March, 1921, is a most puzzling document, and we asked Sir Harry Courthope-Munroe, K.C., (who appeared for Sir George Buchanan) to address us on what he conceived to be its true construction.

By Clause 1 the firm of Meik and Buchanan agree to act as the Engineers of the Secretary of State in carrying out the said scheme and in the construction and completion of all works connected therewith and the firm shall at all times advise and assist the Government of Bombay in all matters relating to the execution of the works and shall supervise the same and undertake and perform all work and duties devolving upon Engineers of large works and in particular—

The preparation of working drawings, specifications, schedules of quantities, etc. As regards "works in India the agreement specified that Sir George Buchanan himself should visit Bombay in 1921 and every year thereafter when the working season began and should "remain in Bombay for such period during the working season as he or the Government of Bombay may consider necessary to ensure the complete and satisfactory supervision of the works, and shall also if necessary in his own opinion or in the opinion of the Government of Bombay make additional visits during any monsoon."

It was pressed upon us that nothing in the foregoing put any responsibility for the actual execution of the works upon Sir George Buchanan but it was agreed that he was bound to assist and advise the Government of Bombay and bound also completely and satisfactory to supervise the works.

Notwithstanding that Sir George Buchanan in his letters asserted on four or five occasions that his firm was responsible for the execution of the entire work, we think that that and the more extended phrase to be found at the end of the letter of 3rd June, 1922 meant nothing more than that as Engineers they were so responsible. We can however understand that these letters may have induced Sir Lawless Hepper to believe that Sir George Buchanan had assumed responsibility for the actual execution of the work. The point, however, is not now of practical importance.

WHO WAS RESPONSIBLE?

The argument that they were responsible for the actual execution of the works is based principally upon Clause 3 of the agreement, which says, "A Resident Engineer . . . will be nominated by the Firm and will carry out the details of the works in accordance with the Firm's instructions but subject to the control of the Director of Development," etc.

It was no doubt the duty of the firm to make out a programme and to give all necessary details as to method and type of work necessary. It was no doubt equally the duty of the Resident Engineer to carry out the

(Continued on next page.)

THE EXPECTED WHITEWASH

(Continued from previous page.)

work in accordance with the firm's instructions. We do not, however, think that clause on a true construction of the agreement made the firm responsible for the due execution of the work. That was the duty of Mr. Lewis and Sir Lawless Hepper. Sir George Buchanan has pointed out the impossibility of such a responsibility inasmuch as it is conceded that he had not the power to dismiss or suspend the Resident Engineer who was in direct contractual relationship with the Bombay Government nor had he any power of dismissal over any of the staff of any grade whatever.

We are therefore of opinion that Lord Lloyd rightly described the respective functions of Sir Lawless Hepper and Sir George Buchanan, and their duties may be summarised by saying that apart from the specific acts set out in the agreement, Sir George Buchanan has to assist and advise the Government of Bombay and to supervise completely and satisfactorily the execution of the works, according to the usual practice of engineers.

NO EFFECTIVE DAILY CONTROL.

The Resident Engineer had to carry out the details of the works as indicated to him by the firm, and on Sir Lawless Hepper rested the duty of seeing that the work was done efficiently and economically, the Resident Engineer being, by the very terms of the agreement, under his control.

We may at this point anticipate events and say that in our opinion Sir George Buchanan did not sufficiently assist and advise the Government of Bombay, nor did he completely or satisfactorily supervise the work. As regards Sir Lawless Hepper, he did not regard himself as responsible for the execution of the work and appears to have thought that the practical carrying out of the scheme was a matter for the Resident Engineer and the firm of Meik and Buchanan, and therefore in practice there was no driving force behind Mr. Lewis, the Resident Engineer, and no effective daily control.

SIR GEORGE BUCHANAN'S REPORT.

Before dealing with the manner in which the work was carried out we ought to give a short summary of the principal points in Sir George Buchanan's report of 1919, as that is a document of prime importance in the case.

Sir George was reporting on Mr. Kidd's scheme of 1912 and there is no doubt from what has been already set out that he was desired to report with the least possible delay.

On the question of the nature and extent of dredgable material in the harbour he accepted the opinion of Mr. Kidd.

"On the assumption," he says, "that Mr. Kidd's surveys and borings are correct and I see no reason to doubt their accuracy as a great many borings were taken, I accept his conclusion both in respect to quality and quantity of material" (Report, page 4).

He also accepted Mr. Kidd's opinion that Back Bay itself was not a suitable place for dredging owing to its being shallow, rocky and subject to strong tides.

In the terms of reference he had been asked to advise on the suitability of the proposed method of reclamation by means of dredging or alternative proposals for the same.

Whilst we are of opinion that, generally speaking, and with normal ruling prices, reclamation, when undertaken on a large scale, is more economically effected by suction dredging, it was, nevertheless, part Sir George Buchanan's duty to investigate the alternative method of dry filling. That duty was the more insistent because of the enormously increased cost of dredgers and dredging apparatus since the date of Mr. Kidd's report. Investigation might have revealed the impossibility of getting material in sufficient quantity, with easy access to a railway, and also the railways with their suburban and other traffic might have found it impossible to deliver the material in sufficient quantity. Also at the time considerable railway reconstruction was in progress. Sir George Buchanan, however, did not consider any other scheme than that of dredging, and dismisses the alternative method by saying that "there is an abundance of material in the harbour for the filling, and it can be deposited in the area to be reclaimed by means of modern suction dredgers much cheaper than in any other way."

INCREDIBLE FAILURE.

He calculated that 25 million cubic yards of dredged filling would be required, and he said that this would be accomplished by the plant which had "been designed to deal with 25 million cubic yards in five years, working 170 days a year and 15 hours pumping-time a day in two sifts," thus totalling 5,100,000 cubic yards per working season. This shows a margin of 100,000 cubic yards only, and, therefore, an insignificant diminution in hourly output below 2,000 yards, or a failure to pump for 5 hours throughout the whole 170 days, or a breakdown meant a falling behind in the programme. Nevertheless, Sir George Buchanan described this dredging output as a "conservative estimate," but, as will be seen hereafter, the dredging operations failed to an almost incredible extent, yielding a result in three years' operation of less than the anticipated output of one year.

MR. LEWIS' LACK OF EXPERIENCE.

He urged the employment of a resident engineer, who should be "a specialist in sea works and dredging," and, he eventually nominated Mr. Lewis. We are of opinion that he was not a specialist in sea works or dredging, and our warrant for that is the record of his own career as given by him to us in evidence. Sir George Buchanan, whilst deprecating (Report, para. 44) the employment of any Public Works Department man, on the ground that the Department had no specialists, nevertheless put forward Mr. Lewis, a man from that Department. He had been associated with Sir George Buchanan in the Rangon River Training Works, but the nature of that under taking and Mr. Lewis's afforded no justification for regarding him as "a specialist in sea works and dredging."

> "The failure of the Government of Bombay and the Government of India, and in particular the failure of Sir Sydney Crookshank, to notice the varying descriptions of clay contained in (a) Mr. Kidd's Report, (b) Sir George Buchanan's Report, (c) Messrs. Simons and Co.'s letter of 12th Septerber, 1919, and the "general conditions" enclosed with that letter are regrettable"
> —From Back Bay Report.

It was essential that the resident engineer should not only have the necessary knowledge and experience, but equally essential that he should have energy, driving force, the ability to look ahead and a talent for organisation. We cannot estimate precisely the original fitness of Mr. Lewis for the post, because he has been ill almost continuously since 1922, and was a man in most broken health when he appeared before us.

His failure was no doubt in great part due to his oncoming illness, but at the same time we cannot understand how Sir George Buchanan ever recommended him. It was certainly no task for a man whose experience had been confined to the work of which he spoke to us in detail, even though he was a man who had risen to a position of eminence in the Public Works Department. In our opinion Sir George Buchanan failed to appreciate the complexity of the work, and he ought to have insisted on the post being publicly advertised and a salary attached to it of a sufficiently substantial character to attract a first-rate man of energy and specialised experience.

If no such man was likely to be procurable, then Sir George Buchanan should have taken that into consideration when writing his report and should have laid stress upon it. Mr. Kidd described dredging on an exposed seafront as "one of the most difficult, expensive and uncertain operations imaginable in engineering," and this unhappy story that we are unfolding fully bears this out.

WASTEFUL METHOD OF WORK.

Apart from Mr. Lewis's condition of health and lack of experience, there was another circumstance which gravely handicapped him. It became necessary for him to prepare a detailed project estimate, and this work we are satisfied occupied him for many hours a day down to May, 1922, he was chained to his desk, whereas in fact he ought to have been free to go at all hours of the day to all parts of the work and co-ordinate each part and push it forward. In that way and in that alone could proper progress be achieved. The office demands were however insistent and could not be disregarded, and as a consequence in whatever direction one turns, there is found either failure of organisation unexplained delays and absence of co-ordination, a wasteful method of work or the acquisition of unsuitable plant.

Mr. Lewis spent some part of July and August, 1919, in London at the offices of Meik and Buchanan preparing estimates of plant required, and about £350,000 worth of plant was ordered, apart from the dredger, booster, pipelines and marine appliances.

Almost as soon as Mr. Lewis returned to India in the autumn of 1920, it became evident that an expenditure far in excess of Rs. 367.61 lakhs was inevitable, and in July, 1921, in reply to a representation by the Indian Merchants Chamber, Government put forward a figure of 7 crores as the estimated cost of the Reclamation.

LLOYD'S OVER-CONFIDENCE.

On 9th August, 1921, His Excellency Lord Lloyd addressed the Indian Merchants Chamber and told them that he was sure that the more they knew the more they would share his confidence in the enterprise that Government had undertaken for the safeguarding of the trade of Bombay and for the social amelioration of the workers in that ever growing city. He pointed out that it was on the specific request of the citizens of Bombay that the Government were dealing with these questions and that immediately upon his landing he was asked to deal with this question as an urgent matter. He then referred to the "splendid support of Bombay to the loan issue" and to the unanimous vote of the Legislative Council to the formulated scheme.

He said that "the more my colleagues and I examined the scheme the more convinced were we in the soundness of the project itself, of its essentiality to the future of Bombay trade, and to its necessity for the solution of the housing problem as a whole. I believe that if we are really to cure the great evils of congestion, then we have got to face and undertake the Back Bay Scheme."

As regards expert opinion, he explained the position of his Government in much the same way as in his evidence before us, he described his own position, namely, that having consulted the best experts, the Government should stand by their advice.

He gave the figure of 850 lakhs as the estimated cost of the Reclamation and showed that after deducting roads and allowing 187 acres for open spaces, there would remain 453 acres reclaimed at a cost of Rs. 28 per square yard.

BUCHANAN'S ARBITRARY ESTIMATE.

Meanwhile, Mr. Lewis proceeded with his project estimate, and in February, 1922 Sir George Buchanan revised his own figures and at that date estimated that the work would cost 668.89 lakhs. He says that the rise in the price of materials, plant and labour between September, 1920, and February, 1922, accounts for the difference. We are not able to agree with him.

We may take one illustration. The Public Works Department in 1912 had given Mr. Kidd a figure of 59.45 lakhs (about £445,875) for "Roads, lighting and drains".

Sir George Buchanan did not ask the Public Works Department for a revised figure in 1919, nor did he get a copy of the original Public Works Department estimate, and therefore did not know what it contained. All that he did was to increase the 59.45 lakhs to an arbitrary figure of 75 lakhs, forgetful, apparently, that there was a rise of at least 250 per cent. in plant, material and labour collectively, between 1912 and 1919. In his draft revised estimate of February 1922, he re-inserted the figure of 75 lakhs, but in consequence of a conversation with Sir Lawless Hepper about storm water drains he added 60 lakhs (£450,000). In fact the storm water drains will cost £482,000, a sum almost exhausting for this one item, the original 75 lakhs of Sir George Buchanan's estimate for roads, light and drains.

Mr. Lewis eventually estimated the cost of the work to be 702 lakhs. Sir George Buchanan has criticised this figure. We find it difficult to appreciate why he has done so. Mr. Lewis's estimate is after all only 5 per cent. in excess of Sir George Buchanan's own figure of 668 lakhs.

The revised estimate of 702 lakhs was incorporated into the Budget of 1922-1923 and sanctioned. In the Report of the Advisory Committee a calculation based on the then experience gave the estimated cost of completing the work at 1,192 lakhs (£8,265,000). Mr. Elgee the present Chief Engineer's estimate is 1,000 lakhs (£7,500,000).

A careful reading of the Report shows that Sir George Buchanan did not disclose that there were any elements in the undertaking which might cause difficulty. He gave no hint either in the Report or in any conversations with Lord Lloyd or the Member in Charge that there were any factors which might operate against all the work passing through all its stages with precision.

When at the end of the first season it was found that the dredging operations had failed lamentably, Sir George Buchanan explained that the first season's working might be regarded as "experimental". When it was found that the rubble mound beneath the seawall continued to be porous he appears to have taken the view that the dredged material, silt or mud, which was of so fine a character as to escape through the rubble mound would not make good reclamation material and was apparently content to allow the leakage to continue. Nor did he make mention of the fallibility of the human element—i.e., the lack of skill, energy and zeal of any crew, which he has emphasised so much in his evidence. The work was therefore put in hand by the Government of Bombay in full reliance upon the Report of Sir George Buchanan, and in the fullest belief that all his anticipations would be realised.

THE CONDUCT OF THE WORKS

WASTE OF PUBLIC MONEY.

The first necessity was to open a quarry. This was done at Kandivli, a distance of about 20 miles from the site of the proposed reclamation.

The more important plant, consisting of railway wagons, locomotives, steam shovels, etc., cost about £350,000.

Originally Sir G. Buchanan estimated that 800 tons of stone a day from the quarry would suffice for the construction of the sea wall in four years. This amount was subsequently increased to 2,000 tons a day when the decision was taken to build the sea wall from both ends.

A Bucyrus Steam Shovel was purchased for about £9,000 and also three Whittaker shovels at a cost of about £3,000 each. Not one of these machines ever did one day's work as steam shovels, owing mainly to the fact that the quarry did not present a suitable "face" for them and also because no one could be found who was able to work them.

Some of them have been used as cranes, but their original purchase was to a considerable extent a waste of public money.

Before the Bucyrus Shovel was purchased, a cable was sent by the Government of Bombay to the India Office asking for Sir George Buchanan's opinion on its suitability, and on the 13th April, 1920, the India Office cabled that Sir George stated that the shovel would be "very useful for Back Bay Scheme." It was bought. Sir George Buchanan stated in his evidence that it was in fact unsuitable for the work.

He however expressed marked disapproval of the purchase of other plant of which the three Whittaker shovels formed a part, and in a letter of 11th April, 1922, he warned the Development Directorate that "in addition to the actual capital cost of the plant interest for many years has to be paid and it is desirable to economise wherever it is possible to do so without interfering with efficiency or with the speedy execution." Sir Lawless Hepper and Mr. Lewis however decided that the bulk of this plant was necessary.

With the exception of the matters to which we have referred, the work at the quarry has proceeded more satisfactorily and more smoothly than in any other part of the undertaking.

SEA WALL.

The two main features of the work were the construction of a retaining sea wall on a rubble mound from Colaba to Marina Lines of a length of about 4-1/2 miles and the dredging of material from the harbour by means of a rotary cutter suction dredger which, having displaced the mud or clay from the bed of the sea, would pump it to a distance of 5,000 feet. Its further propulsion to a second distance of 5,000 into the landward side of the sea wall was to be attained by another pumping apparatus—described as a booster.

Mr. Kidd in 1912 estimated its cost at 64.22 lakhs (£428,133, taking the rupee as it stood at 1s. 4d.). Sir George Buchanan was of opinion that the work could have been done for 53 lakhs by Mr. Kidd. His 1919 estimate was 118.11 lakhs (approximately £787,400 taking the rupee at the rate of Rs. 15 to the £ or £984,250 taking the rupee as it stood in 1919 at Rs. 12 to £1).

The initial object of the sea wall and rubble mound was of course to retain the material pumped into it and the whole enclosed area of 1,145 acres was to be subdivided into eight Blocks by means of cross bunds run out from the foreshore and meeting the wall at right angles, thus creating eight relatively small enclosed areas or lagoons. Block 1 was the nearest to Marine Lines. Block 8 was at the Colaba end. Where storm water drains were necessary they had also to be built and carried through the sea wall. Originally Sir George Buchanan had intended to begin the sea wall at the Marine Lines end and to construct it gradually, keeping it just in advance of the dredging.

DECISION TO BEGIN WALL AT BOTH ENDS SIMULTANEOUSLY.

On the 7th July, 1920, the India Office sent a letter to Sir George Buchanan saying that the Government of Bombay wished to have his opinion as to whether it would be possible to begin work on the Back Bay scheme at both ends simultaneously. The underlying reason for this inquiry was that the Military Authorities had undertaken to buy an area of 235 acres at the Colaba end and therefore wanted that part of the reclamation pushed on, it having been Sir George Buchanan's intention to commence at the Marine Lines end and build towards Colaba.

On 10th July the firm of Meik and Buchanan replied suggesting the text of the cable to be sent to the Government of Bombay: "Buchanan reports that it is practicable to begin work on the Back Bay scheme at both ends simultaneously . . . To begin building the wall in two places will not materially advance matters unless reclamation can also be proceeded with and Buchanan is considering whether the new dredger (i.e., "Sir George Lloyd") and the "Jinga" (sic., but "Kalu" meant) can work simultaneously at eastern and western areas. Buchanan understands Lewis is on his way home and he will discuss all these points fully with him."

On the 15th July, 1920, Messrs. Meik and Buchanan suggested a further message: "Buchanan has now satisfied himself that the dredger "Jinga" (sic. "Kalu" meant) and the new dredger can work together on Bombay Reclamation and therefore work on construction of the wall can proceed from both ends simultaneously. Buchanan asks for very early orders as to whether he is to proceed on these lines as considerable changes in designs and arrangements for execution of work will be necessary."

On the 20th July, 1920, the Government of Bombay cabled "Work may start from both ends."

A DISASTROUS DECISION.

This was a disastrous decision. It has been put forward that if it was necessary to reclaim the Colaba ends first it was prudent to begin the wall at both ends because at Marine Lines the railway was already in existence. At this date, July, 1920, no work of any kind had been done and in our opinion the proper course would have been to construct the temporary line from Marine Lines to Colaba (which had eventually in any case to be built) and to commence the building of the wall from Colaba end only.

In any private business enterprise the offer of the Military authorities would have come as a godsend and everything else would have been subordinated to the acquisition of the purchase price at the earliest possible moment. The purchase price of 256 lakhs (£1,920,000) would have paid for the whole of the dredging plant and all other plant, and that part of the sea wall necessary to enclose Block 8 with storm water drains and crossbund. It would have put the enterprise on a sound financial basis. The expediency of "concentrating upon Block 8 to the exclusion of everything else was so elementary that it is amazing to us that no intensive effort was made to construct the railway from Marine Lines to Colaba—to push on with the necessary length of sea wall, storm water drains and crossbund and thus have at the very earliest moment an enclosed area for the pumping operations.

Construction on both ends of the sea wall was carried out until a gap of 1850 feet alone remained. The cost up to date exceeds 200 lakhs (about £1,500,000). No portion of it at present is giving any financial return and more than three fourths of it is serving no useful purpose whatever. The yearly loss of interest alone comes to at least £90,000 a year.

LEAKAGE OF PUMPED MATERIAL.

When pumping did at last commence into Block 8 it was at once noticed that large quantities of silt or mud were escaping through the rubble mound into the open sea. Sir George Buchanan has told us that a large amount was escaping through a hole in the wall which marked the passage of a storm water drain. In that particular instance it may be so, but the fact is proved beyond doubt that the rubble mound was porous and calculations have been made which show that in the first two seasons about 900,000 cubic yards of material was lost. This is necessarily an approximate figure. It is arrived at by a calculation of the amount dredged and the amount found on measurement at the end of the season to have been deposited in the Reclamation. We are at least certain that there was a continuous leakage of an enormous amount of material through the rubble mound.

If we assume it to be even two-thirds of 900,000 cubic yards and taking Sir George Buchanan's original under-estimate of 8 annas per cubic yard of reclamation the money loss (apart from loss of time) comes to £22,500. Sir Lawless Hepper, Mr. Lewis and Mr. Elgee have all given evidence at to the continuous loss of material and have said that they urged Sir George Buchanan to agree to the sealing of the inner side of the sea wall and the cross bunds by moorum filling. For some reason not very clearly put forward, Sir Gerge Buchanan was not willing that this should be done and indeed he had written on the 3rd June, 1922, to Mr. Lewis, saying, "in any case the sea must pass through the porous rubble wall for a long time to come." There is no doubt that Sir George Buchanan was considerably disturbed as to the character of the silt and mud which was being pumped into the reclaimed area and his inaction may have been due to a belief that the material would never dry out and make good land. At all events, in February, 1925, Sir Lawless Hepper obtained the consent of the Local Government to incur the necessary expenditure and then sealed the wall and cross bund with a sufficient layer of moorum to effect retention of all material pumped into it.

Sir George Buchanan does not appear to have known that this was done, because on the 15th October, 1925, the following passage occurs in a letter from his firm to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay:—

"According to the figures given in your letter under reply, 1,261,986 cubic yards of material was dredged from the harbour during the last season, but only 680,438 cubic yards was deposited in Back Bay. The smallness of this latter figure obviously points to a great leakage from the area under reclamation, and the advisability is indicated of tipping a water-tight moorum bank along the inside face of the sea wall and otherwise arranging for the detention within the area under reclamation of as much as possible of the silt-laden water discharged through the pipe line until the silt has precipitated."

ANOTHER FAILURE OF BUCHANAN.

A comparison of Mr. Kildd's estimate with that of Sir George Buchanan shows that Mr. Kidd realised the necessary of using a considerable quantity of moorum as a sealing agency, and his evidence shows that he never contemplated the escape of any dredged material. Sir George Buchanan, whilst not denying the loss of material, took up a curriously detached attitude about it. He seemed in this instance as in many others to which we shall have to refer, to have overlooked the position he occupied in relation to the works and the Government of Bombay. It was his duty to advise and to assist and to supervise.

Sir George Buchanan has said that he does not think the sea wall was built according to his specification but he did not put that forward when Sir Lawless Hepper and Mr. Lewis and subsequently Mr. Elgee wanted to seal the wall. The point of importance is not so much the fact that the rubble mound continued to be porous, as that Sir George Buchanan did not advise its immediate sealing and did not in the course of his supervision see that is was done. It will be noticed that even as late as October, 1925, his firm when told of the great loss which had occurred contented themselves with saying merely that the "advisability is indicated of tipping a water tight moorum bank along the inside face of the sea wall".

We are of opinion that it was his plain duty himself to have advised immediate action when the rubble mound was found to be porous, and he cannot shift the responsibility for the continuing loss by saying that if it was noticed to be escaping day by day the Chief Engineer ought to have stopped it. Under his duty of supervision his further obligation undoubtedly was himself to require the rubble mound to be sealed when it was found to be non-retaining.

The Committee then deals at length with the questions of the dredgers, dredging plant their cost and their operation and sums up its findings thus:—

UNHAPPY BUSINESS.

Reviewing the whole unhappy business of the purchase of the dredgers and their work we find the salient facts to be as follows:—

(i) When Sir George Buchanan left Bombay for England in order to arrange for the purchase of a suitable dredger he accepted Mr. Kidd's report as sufficient warranty for the conclusion that an adequate supply of material suitable for the purpose could be obtained by dredging in Bombay harbour. Yet three years later we find him noting that "the first thing to do was to ascertain the precise nature of the material in the harbour by a practical test with a grab or other dredger." In our opinion this was the "first thing" which should have been done, not in December, 1922, but in May, 1919. Had this experiment been made then, Sir George Buchanan could have ascertained by personal inspection what Mr. Kidd meant by the "stiff and unctuous" character of the material to be dealt with; he would not have been troubled during the year 1921 by "pessimistic reports as to the unsuitability of the material in the harbour"; or have found it an agreeable surprise" in January, 1924, that "what was being pumped consisted largely of a hard compact clay."

(ii) The actual purchase of the dredger "Sir George Lloyd" was pushed through as a matter of urgency: yet this vessel and her attendant "booster" reached Bombay in March-April, 1922, only to remain idle for some twenty-one months.

(iii) The entire project was one in which heavy initial outlay was to be recouped by handsome profits after its completion; the time to be occupied in carrying the work through was therefore an element of the utmost importance for the consideration of those responsible for deciding whether it

> "The real truth of the matter was that the officials, both in Bombay and Delhi, were largely in the hands of Sir George Buchanan. We do not suggest for one moment that he in the slightest degree intionally misled them, but they were not able to discuss the matter on anything like an equal footing with him."
> —From Back Bay Report.

should or should not be taken in han The Government of Bombay accepted Sir George Buchanan's estimate that the dredging part of the scheme could be completed in five years, and this estimate was based upon the procuring of a dredger capable of giving a steady hourly output of 2,000 cubic yards of the material actually to be found in the harbour at Bombay. Yet Sir George Buchanan accepted, and recommended for purchase, a dredger whose manufacturers carefully safeguarded themselves by stipulating that it would be capable of this output only when the material to be dealt with was "soft clay" and on test only. Their London Representative, Mr. McMurray, made it perfectly clear in his evidence that his firm deliberately tendered for a dredger capable of this output only when dealing with material which could fairly be so described. Mr. McMurray knew a great deal about the conditions of dredging in Bombay harbour: his evidence shows that if Sir George Buchanan had stood out for a contract to supply a dredger capable of the desired output in respect of the material to be found in that harbour, his firm, if they tendered for the contract at all, would either have proposed a "totally different" dredger at a totally different price," or have suggested the acquisition of two dredgers each of the capacity of the "Sir George Lloyd."

UNFOUNDED CHARGE.

(iv) The failure of the "Sir George Lloyd" to give anything like the output upon which Sir George Buchanan's whole calculation was based was not, to any appreciable extent, due to any shortcomings on the part of those who worked it: it was from the first inevitable in view of the designed capacity of the dredger and in view of the material upon which the dredger was called on to work, and could obviously have been predicted by Mr. McMurray. It is idle to talk about the "human element" as a decisive factor, or even as one which had any material bearing on the result. In so far as the "human element" entered seriously into the matter, it was in the appointment of an unsuitable man as Resident Engineer in charge and the saddling of the man, when appointed, with office work which prevented him from exercising close, constant and energetic supervision over the actual operations.

(v) The porous character of the rubble mound as originally constructed, without moorum backing was a mistake; and this would have been set right sooner than it was if a lingering doubt as to suitability of the material actually being dredged had not led to a curious indifference as to the loss of a large proportion of it.

(vi) The division of responsibility between Sir George Buchanan and his Firm on the one hand, and the Development Directorate and Sir Lawless Hepper on the other, led to slowness in appreciating and delay in acting upon facts which should have been glaringly apparent after the first year's working. It partially explains, but does not justify, the issue of optimistic reports at a time when the entire scheme was showing every sign of disastrous failure in one of its essentials, namely, the proposed completion of the work within a period of five years.

UNEASINESS IN BOMBAY.
APPOINTMENT OF COMMITEES.

Early in 1924 there was a certain feeling of uneasiness as to the progress of the works and the future prospects of the many schemes of the Development Directorate. Mr. Lalji Naranji had put forward a resolution asking for an inquiry into the activities of the Development Department and for an opinion as to how far and in what directions such activities should be continued or eliminated. The Government of Bombay, by letter dated the 25th August, 1924, requested the Advisory Committee to the Development Directorate to undertake this task.

On the 4th December, 1925, the Government of Bombay purported to cancel the agreement of the 17th March, 1921. We need not detail the circumstances which induced the Government to take this step as it is no part of our duty to determine whether they were right or wrong in the course they took.

On the 21st January, 1926, the Advisory Committee issued an interim Report specially devoted to the Back Bay Scheme, and this document, together with the forcible dissenting Report of Mr. Manu Subedar, profoundly stirred public opinion in Bombay and throughout the Presidency. The Development Directorate and its various schemes were the subject of strong criticism in the ensuing session of the Legislative Council and, as was only natural, the Back Bay Reclamation Scheme and those responsible for its inception and conduct were the objects of special attack.

A Sub-Committee of the Advisory Committee had reported on the financial prospects of the scheme and, basing their calculations on the results actually obtained in the past, were of opinion that the scheme would cost 11 crores and not be completed until 1944-45.

By April, 1926, there was reason to believe that the dredging result of 1925-26 was considerably better than in previous years

(Continued on next page.)

THE EXPECTED WHITEWASH

(Continued from previous page.)

and as a consequence a Committee was appointed on the 19th April, 1926, to revise the estimates of the Advisory Sub-Committee. Their findings were to be considered by yet another Committee, who, having weighed the financial position of the scheme, were to report what if any, further portion of the work could be undertaken with a reasonable prospect of reducing the loss, and in this connection to have special regard to Blocks I and 2. The first Committee was presided over by Mr. Neilson Chairman of the Bombay Port Trust, the second by Mr. Kay, Chairman of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce. The Reports were signed on the 30th July, 1926, and 20th August 1926 respectively, and were placed before us.

NO CHARGES OF DISHONESTY.

On three occasions in Bombay we announced publeily our willingness to receive evidence from anyone who could give us assistance upon any matters coming within our terms of reference. One of these matters undoubtedly was the conduct of the officials of the Development Directorate in relation to the reclamation scheme.

In March, of 1925 Mr. Nariman stated in the Legislative Council that there were ugly rumours in the city that the higher staff of officers in the Development Directorate had been receiving secret commissions from manufacturers.

It may be true that there were ugly rumours, but as far as our inquiries into the affairs of the Back Bay scheme have gone there has not been the very slightest evidence brought forward that these ugly rumours had any foundation in fact. No one has brought any charge against any manufacturer of having given, or any official, high or low, of the Development Directorate of having accepted a commission. When Mr. Nariman gave evidence before the Committee he did not disclose any fact which in the least degree implicated anyone of wrong-doing of this character. There has not been throughout the whole of the inquiry the least suggestion that anyone interested in supplying or ordering goods for the reclamation or assisting in the work of the reclamation has been guilty of any dishonesty of any kind whatever.

SIR ALEXANDER GIBB'S REPORT.

In January, 1926, Sir Alexander Gibb, a well-known Engineer, happened to be in Bombay, and he was asked by the Government to report on the position of the work. He stated that the results of the dredging were unsatisfactory, and he said "the reason for this is the unsuitability of the dredging plant for dealing with the material as it exists both in the harbour and Back Bay." By unsuitability we assume that Sir Alexander Gibb meant the inability of the dredger to dredge 2,000 cubic yards an hour regularly.

He continues, "Although I am informed that the borings have been found substantially correct in so far as hard and soft materials are concerned, the nature of these materials is, in the main, either too hard to obtain an economical output for the dredger or too soft to provide "satisfactory filling" for the purpose of reclamation. Added to this, a very large portion of the material is situated at too great a distance from the site of the Reclamation to be pumped economically with the dredging plant as specified and delivered..... I am faced with the conclusions.....

"(d) That there is, however, soft clay available in the harbour within working distance of the Reclamation Block No. 8, which could be pumped with the assistance of the floating shore dredging plant in sufficient quantities to complete this area. That this material, though I could not recommend it generally for the reclamation of land which it is intended to build over, would nevertheless be suitable for Block No. 8, which I understand is to be utilised for parade purposes and into which a substantial depth of hard clay has already been pumped. The dredging plant will probably sell for a better value if the dredger has proved herself by dredging in Bombay more approximately to the quantity of material for which she was designed."

The entire success of Sir George Buchanan's scheme was based upon the dredger working in silt or mud and soft clay, and giving every hour her guaranteed output. Stiff clay in the sense of clay more resistant than soft clay or hard clay never entered into his calculations. That was one of the pivotal mistakes of his whole scheme.

Sir Alexander Gibb says that "all reasonable care and skill has been exercised by those in charge of the work to secure the best results out of the dredging plant."

MISLEADING REPORTS OF DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE.

The hostility that was shown towards the Development Directorate was increased by the circumstance that there was believed to have been concealment of the true position.

It was the practice of the Development Directorate to publish annually a "Report on the Working of the Development Directorate". That body, as we have seen had many other activities besides the Back Bay Reclamation, but the latter was by far the most important. Sir Lawless Hepper has taken full responsibility for the Reports which were indeed drafted by him. His attitude in this respect gained our approval. When in August, 1926, he gave his preliminary Statement to the Committee he laid the greatest emphasis on the point that Sir George Buchanan had ordered a soft clay dredger and he put this forward as one of the "mistakes" which had proved "disastrous." It is evident that by 31st March, 1922, Sir Lawless Hepper had not noticed this point because at page 6 of the Report of that date he speaks of the dredger as "capable of dredging 2,000 cubic yards of clay per hour."

> "The reports of Mr. Kidd and of Sir George Buchanan were not studied with due and proper care by the Bombay Government and the Government of India respectively".
>
> —From Back Bay Report.

In the report for the year ending 31st March, 1924, he says, "the material obtained proved to be of a much better quality than had been anticipated, being a heavy hard clay with sand." From first to last in the Reports he gives no figures such as are set out above, i.e., figures showing less than fifty per cent. of the guaranteed output, nor does he make mention of the failure to work the necessary number of hours and he is silent as to the loss of material. There is no doubt that these Reports must have conveyed a false impression of the progress of the work and were misleading. The report dated 31st March, 1924, was in fact published about July 1924 and similarly that for the year ending March 1925, appeared in or about July 1925. Sir Lawless Hepper knew what had been happening and yet commenced the March 1924 report, "The Reclamation and housing schemes made satisfactory progress."

In March, 1925, he wrote "Work on the Back Bay Reclamation Scheme and on the Housing Scheme made steady progress during the year." As a partial justification he alleged that he was in a difficulty both as regards Sir George Buchanan and the Government. He was anxious to say nothing which would embarrass either. At the same time a perusal of his Statement of August, 1926, shows that he had no disposition at that time to spare Sir George Buchanan or Messrs. Meik and Buchanan. He was at that date and in his evidence endeavouring to put the whole responsibility for the "disastrous combination of mistakes" on the shoulders of Sir George Buchanan.

The Reports are also silent upon the increase of the estimate from 367.61 lakhs to 702 lakhs, and anyone reading the Reports and having no other sources of information would believe that the scheme had been from its inception one of 702 lakhs.

At the same time, some allowance must be made for Sir Lawless Hepper. His position was one of extreme difficulty and great anxiety. He was apprehensive of creating a "panic" which might prematurely wreck an enterprise which he hoped would eventually extricate itself from its initial difficulties. But when everything is said on his behalf the fact still remains that the annual Reports did not, as far as the Back Bay Reclamation Scheme was concerned, present a true picture of the progress of the work.

POLICY OF "HUSH HUSH."

We have spoken of the absence of discussion between the Government of Bombay, the Port Trust and the Royal Indian Marine. That has been, in our opinion, quite rightly, a matter of public criticism.

The allegation has also been made that there was a definite policy of official secrecy and that contrary to custom the public were not taken into the confidence of the Government of Bombay with regard to the development schemes. Some of the operations of the Development Department necessitated the acquisition of land and as regards this it was most important that the intentions of Government should not be known and prudent to preserve secrecy about them. As regards the Back Bay reclamation the first point to be noted is that more than ten Committees had discussed reclamation in some form or another, and the need for action was fully appreciated by the Government of Bombay. Definite pressure was being put upon them by Mr. Montague. Development had been delayed for years, but extracts which we have set out from minutes and despatches, and especially the minute of 6th April, 1920, prove most conclusively Mr. Montagu's determination that schemes on a large scale should be undertaken so that the condition of life in Bombay might be ameliorated. Lord Lloyd, in dealing with this question of secrecy, laid stress on the fact that the scheme was submitted to the representatives of the people of the Presidency, viz., the Legislative Council with all the publicity which that implied and that they accepted the scheme without dissent.

DEPARTMENTALLY OR BY CONTRACT.

If there were any Contractors who, previous occasions a Reclamation Scheme was proposed the question of the agency by which such work should be done was always a matter of consideration. In the terms of reference Sir George Buchanan was also asked for his opinion "whether the entire work should be given out as one complete contract or divided up into small contracts or the whole work carried out departmentally."

Sir George Buchanan stated that the usual and best method of carrying out a large public work was to adopt one of three courses:—

(1) Tenders to be invited for the execution of the whole work on working drawings, specifications, bills of quantities and conditions of contract supplied by the Engineers entrusted by Government with the project.

(2) The work to be divided into sections and tenders to be invited for each section on the above lines.

(3) The work to be carried out departmentally on working drawings, specifications and estimates prepared by the Engineers entrusted by Government with the work.

If there were any Contractors who possessed adequate dredging plant he would have recommended tenders for the whole work. A new dredger or dredgers and new plant had to be obtained and he recommended one of two courses:—

(1) (a) Tenders to be asked for the construction of the sea wall and a contract placed if a satisfactory offer is received.

(b) Tenders to be also asked for the moorum filling and construction of roads, drains, etc., and either one contract or several smaller contracts to be arranged.

(c) The Government to purchase the dredging plant and carry out departmentally the work of filling the area to be reclaimed.

(2) The whole of the work to be carried out departmentally, making use of local contractors for small contracts.

He stated that he was in favour of the first course if a suitable tender was received for the construction of the sea wall.

Eventually as has been already stated Government decided to do the whole of the work departmentally. This decision was influenced no doubt to some extent by the belief that in the then uncertain conditions of trade no contractor would venture to give or could give a close price. He would necessarily have to make large allowances for contingencies. At the same time we are of opinion that the decision to do the work departmentally was a mistake. Lord Lloyd hoped by the creation of the Development Directorate to secure greater elasticity of working than would be attainable in a department such as the Public Works Department whose actions and decisions were necessarily circumscribed by departmental rules. Lord Lloyd hoped no doubt that the Development Directorate would assume in all respects the functions of a contractor and be able to decide all matters with the same unhampered freedom. In practice it did not so work out. We may take the instance on which Sir George Buchanan has laid so much stress, "the magical effect of a bonus." A contractor anxious to spend up the work could have decided at once to give a bonus and to give it on a handsome scale. We doubt if Sir Lawless Hepper had power to make any such decision without application to Government. That was a matter for Government—to whom the idea of a bonus would most certainly be novel—and the decision would take time. Similarly a contractor could have got rid of his Chief Engineer at once. In this particular case the advice of Sir George Buchanan to replace Mr. Lewis was not acted on for two years.

A contractor is intensely concerned with daily cost and daily progress.

The Department had no costs accounting clerk. Sir George Buchanan pointed out its absolute necessity—the Government at first decided against it but ultimately acquiesced. No contractor would have gone on throughout a whole dredging season without ascertaining the results of the daily soundings.

A contractor having undertaken to produce a given result within an agreed time at an agreed price knows that his reputation and perhaps even his solvency depend on his personal watchfulness, drive and energy. The interest of a Government department in any particular scheme is far less concentrated less individual, and less personal.

In our opinion a Local Government should not undertake schemes which are beyond the scope of ordinary Public Works Department work, but should in all cases adopt the first or second of the three courses suggested by Sir George Buchanan which are given above.

MR. KIDD AND HIS 1912 REPORT

We were greatly impressed by Mr. Kidd's evidence, and we believe that if the Government of Bombay had acted promptly upon his Report of 1912 and had entrusted the work to him, the reclamation would have been successfully carried out at about the price and within the time estimated by him. We need not dwell upon the advantages which thereby would have accrued to the City of Bombay.

DREDGING OR DRY FILLING?

Whilst the reclamation was a satisfactory dredging proposition in 1912, it certainly was not so in 1919. In one case, the total estimated expenditure for dredging plant was £287,000, and in the other the cost of dredging plant, including the "Kalu", the "Jinga" and the pipe line, has been about £850,000. Between 1912 and 1919 there was a very large increase in prices of all machinery, cement and other materials required in the works, averaging somewhere between 2 1/2 and 3 times the 1912 prices.

The cost of dredging, as it originally appeared in the 1919 report, was 8 annas per cubic yard for machinery and cost in working. The actual cost of the machinery alone, as supplied, came to even more than 8 annas per cubic yard, thus leaving nothing for working costs. The latter themselves have exceeded 8 annas per cubic yard. It follows that the minimum price for the reclamation by pumping would have been at least 1 rupee per cubic yard.

The price of dry filling in the 1919 report was 2 rupees per cubic yard. Actually, the cost, including plant should be little more than 1 rupee per cupic yard, and having regard to the fact that the moorum filling is far better suited for reclamation purposes and required no time for drying out, it would have been a far better proposition not to have used the dredgers at all, but to have done the whole reclamation by moorum filling if transit facilities were available. It is even yet uncertain to what extent pumped mud will prove satisfactory as a foundation for roads.

Dry filling at 2 rupees was not a business proposition, but at a little over 1 rupee it would have been, and it is unfortunate that this method was not thoroughly investigated before it was decided to buy the dredging plant.

RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING FUTURE OPERATIONS

We have now completed those parts of the Report which deal with the inception and conduct of the scheme, and we turn to our recommendations for the future. At the request of the Government of Bombay we submitted, after our arrival in London on 11th September, an "ad interim" report containing our recommendations as to the steps that should be taken to ensure that work on the reclamation might proceed so far as necessary without interruption during the current working season pending the submission of the Committee's Report. The text of our report was as follows:—

"Committee unanimously recommend reclamation of blocks 1, 2 and 8, block 1 by dredging from Back Bay in next working season and thereafter both blocks 1 and 2 by either dredging or dry filling, whichever may prove more economical or advantageous. Dredger should work three shifts. Block 8 should be completed as quickly as possible by dry filling. Storm water drains 6 and 7 in blocks 1 and 2 should also be completed, and parapets in blocks 1 and 8 constructed in due course.

With regard to block 7, the Committee note that its area is 654,000 square yards and that the quantity of dredged filling, exclusive of moorum topping, required to fill this block is 2,050,000 cubic yards. They consider that if the dredger is worked efficiently for three shifts daily, the block should be completed, so far as dredged material only is concerned, in the course of the season at a rate of 8 annas per cubic yard, and that this rate is much below the cost of any other method of filling at some future date. The cost of moorum topping, development, interest and depreciation has of course to be added to this. The Committee note also that the dredging plant is available on the spot and that the superior staff cannot be dispensed with without six months' notice. At the same time, they are impressed with the uncertainty regarding the date and rates at which the land, if reclaimed, could be disposed of, and this makes them doubtful if it would be a sound proposition financially. They therefore consider that in the circumstances it is for the Local Government to decide for themselves whether any action, and if so what, should be taken in respect of this block pending the decisions of Government on the final report of the Committee.

"The Committee wish to emphasise the necessity of taking immediate steps to find new and nearer quarries for moorum and to arrange definitely for more abundant and speedier supplies at cheaper rates than at present.

"We have not been able to discuss the precise terms of this report with our Chairman, who is now en route from India, but understand that he is in agreement with the substance of our recommendations."

COMPLETION OF BLOCK 8 MOST URGENT.

In this report we have endorsed the recommendations of Mr. Kay's Committee in favour of the completion of blocks 1, 2 and 8, and the Government of Bombay have taken into consideration the facts to which we drew their attention in regard to block 7, and have decided to complete that block also. Their reasons for taking this step are clearly set forth in their Press note, No. P 215, dated 16th October, 1926, which is reproduced in the Appendices. We would here only emphasise that, in our opinion, the completion of block 8 is the most urgent work of all, since the payment which the Indian Government will make when that block is handed over to them will have an important effect in reducing interest charges. The date of completion will, of course, depend upon the extent to which the pumped filling already done becomes sufficiently dry to carry the trains of moorum.

We now recommend that in addition to the completion of the four blocks 1, 2, 7 and 8 the foreshore portion along the middle blocks 3, 4, 5 and 6 should be filled to an average width of 300 feet seaward of the present shore-line and brought up to the ground level of the reclamation. Our proposals are illustrated in the plan which forms the frontispiece to our Report. The strip should be made to curve at both ends, so as to join on with block 2 at the northern and block 7 at the southern end when they are reclaimed. The considerations which have led us to make this recommendation are, firstly, that the unsightly appearance of the reclamation will be largely removed; secondly, the strip of 300 feet will afford facilities for a marine drive which would run from Marine Lines to Colaba; together with footpaths, roads, parks, playing fields and recreation grounds, and, whilst providing access to blocks 7 and 8, will undoubtedly increase the value of blocks 1 and 2; thirdly, a large area in blocks 1 and 2 which might otherwise be required for open spaces will be released for building sites, thereby contributing to a further reduction in the loss anticipated by Mr. Kay's Committee. Special care should be taken to complete the foreshore as speedily as possible, and to remove materials, stores and rolling stock from that area, so that the public may have access to and make full use of the sea front and promenade for purposes of recreation.

The areas to be reclaimed and the quantities of filling to be done in each of the four blocks and the connecting foreshore strip, comprising the first stage of the scheme, are given in the following table:—

No. of block	Area of land to be reclaimed, Sq. yards	Total quantity Filling remaining to be done, Lakhs Cubic yards.	Filling in four blocks and strip Lakhs cubic yards.	Method of filling proposed. By Dredging. Lakhs Cubic yards.	Method of filling proposed. With Moorum. Lakhs. Cubic yards.	Total.
1	4.37	12.60	18.38	10.33	2.27	30.88
2	4.98	20.50	26.06	20.50	20.50	85.54
7	6.54	27.79	27.79	20.50	7.29	85.58
8	11.11	7.53	39.10	7.53	7.53	54.51
fore-shore strip.	4.54	16.92	16.92	16.92	16.92	54.51
	31.54	85.54	128.25	30.83	54.51	311.02

Although the filling of block 2 as it appears in this table is contemplated to be done by moorum, the result of the dredging operations in Back Bay may be such as to justify a partial filling of this area by dredging.

We have considered the possibility of filling the foreshore strip which we have recommended with moorum in lieu of dredged material, and consider that this method would carry with it certain definite advantages. Moorum is consolidated more rapidly than dredged material and the reclaimed land will be available for use at an earlier date. We have reason to believe that the railway companies will quote a price of Rs. 200 per thousand-ton train for 10 trains per day if suitable arrangements for filling and unloading are made. By this method 1,860,000 cubic yards of dry filling could be obtained in a year of 240 working days. The moorum filling should be done by drag-ing scrapers if there is any difficulty in doing it by hand, but the latter course is preferable, provided that a contractor can be found to do the work at a fair price.

A complete lay-out of the area to be reclaimed under the scheme now recommended should be prepared without delay. The foreshore strip should be fully developed as should be completed. Blocks 1, 2 and 7 should be developed gradually as the prepared land is taken up and there is demand for more. In this way the development will be gradual, the construction of roads, drains, etc., will proceed *pari passu* with the progress of land sales and no large outlay under the main head of development will remain unproductive. The lay-out already prepared for the complete scheme for reclaiming 1,145 acres should be examined and the plan (not necessarily the cost) finally approved with suitable modifications. The two lay-outs should be made to fit into one another so that whatever development is now carried out may ultimately form part of the entire scheme, and be furthering its intentions. It would be an advantage if both these lay-outs are scrutinized by a Committee of Engineers and businessmen before they are finally approved by Government. The absence of such final approval has in the past led to delay in the alignment of storm water drains, &c., and to waste of money.

As the area is developed and buildings spring up, the Municipal Corporation of Bombay will be levying house, water and sewerage taxes or rates, and in the fitness of things that body should share a portion of the cost of development. It is presumed that the cost of the water supply mains will be borne entirely and that of the sewerage mains at least partly by the Corporation. It is suggested that these questions be taken up and settled promptly, and in the case of questions which cannot be decided immediately the principles which should guide such future settlement may be clearly laid down.

A clear settlement or understanding between the Government and the Corporation in regard to their respective financial responsibilities will be of material help in the speed solution of all problems leading to the development of the reclaimed area.

It is expected that the "Sir George Lloyd" and the "Colaba" will complete block 7 before the end of the season. We assume that during the current season a much greater out-put will be realised by all the dredgers. The work done should be checked daily by soundings, and the quantities of work done measured up daily. Substantial bonuses should be paid to the staff on the output. At the end of the present dredging season Government should make the closest estimate of the cost incurred in reclaiming blocks 1 and 2 by dredging, and should satisfy themselves as to the character of the land reclaimed. It it should happen that the cost approximates to that of moorum, and the quality of the reclaimed land is found satisfactory, they should consider tre advisability of continuing dredging operations in conjunction with moorum filling into blocks 1 and 2 After the end of the present season if the cost is too high, or the character of the land unsuitble, the use of the dredgers should be discontinued, and an attempt should be made to dispose of the dredging plant. It should be possible, if careful soundings are taken, (to come to a decision by the end of March as to whether the services of the staff should be retained. It is important that no steps should be taken that might lead the trained staff to seek employment elsewhere until Government have come to a decision on this point. We are aware that six months' notice is required under the contract of these officers, but conhider that it would be better to face some loss in this respect than to give notice, even provisionally, before the results of the dredging during the current season are known.

> "It has been put forward that the Reclamation of Back Bay would, by providing more land in the business and residential area, in some way relieve housing conditions of the poorer classes. That in our opinion, is too remote for serious consideration."
>
> —From Back Bay Report.

We are of opinion that the reclamation should be removed from the control of the Development Directorate. The existing organisation, however, should be disturbed as little as possible. The majority of the Committee are of opinion that the control of the reclamation should be placed in the hands of Mr. Elgee, as Chief Engineer, who should work directly under Government and communicate with the Member of Council responsible through the Secretary in the Development Department who, in this branch of his dtuies, should not be subordinate to the Director of Development. Sir Visvesvaraya, however, who has had a life-long experience of the working of the Public Works Department, is of opinion that the future interests of the reclamation would be more efficiently safeguarded by placing the work under the supervision of the Public Works Department. We are, however, all of opinion that whichever plan be adopted a small committee of five or six members, including one or two experienced engineers of the Public Works Department, should be constituted to advise Government on all important matters which are referred to them for their opinion. In so far as the reclamation is concerned, this Committee will assume the duties hitherto performed by the Advisory Committee attached to the Development Directorate. The arrangements we have suggested should continue so long as the progress of the work is satisfactory.

We advise that the work in future should be carried out, as far as possible, by contract agency. If a single contractor cannot be found to undertake the work at a reasonable price, it might be divided into sections, and contracts placed with separate individuals or firms after inviting tenders. In particular, it is desirable that a responsible contractor should be found to undertake all work in connection with the moorum filling, viz., the filling at Kandivli or elsewhere, the use of the necessary plant at the quarry, the payment of the railway companies for freight at such rate as may be agreed upon, the haulage, unloading and spreading of the filling at the site of the reclamation, upkeep of the roads, etc. Before handing over the plant to the contractor for use in the work, it should be jointly surveyed by him and the Government, and careful notes made of its condition, and the contractor should be made responsible for returning the plant to Government in as good condition at the conclusion of his contract, fair wear and tear excepted. The price for filling in the quarries should be per cubic yard in the solid before digging. Similary, work in connection with the storm water drains should be given out to a contractor, and he should be required to supply all necessary material and labour and any additional plant that may be needed. The blocks already cast should, of course, be utilised wherever they are of suitable size.

The expenditure incurred up to the 30th June, 1926, was in round figures, 468 lakhs. To this may be added the estimated cost of completing the scheme indicated in the plan forming the frontispiece, viz.: Rs. 135 lakhs. The total expenditure, therefore, without reckoning interest charges or depreciation, will be 603 lakhs, or if 33 lakhs is deducted as the proceeds or the sale of the dredgers and plant, 570 lakhs net less of course the 256 lakhs receivable from the Military Authorities. The Development Department estimate that the whole scheme can be completed for 1,000 lakhs, but we regard this estimate, like others put forward by the same authority with distrust. As the cost of the work which we propose is necessarily a matter of indidividual opinion, we append alternative estimates marked A and B. In estimate A a sum of 20 lakhs has been appropriated to the gradual development of reclaimed areas, and this sum should suffice for about 700,000 square yards. If the work is carried out with ordinary efficiency and diligence, the prices quoted in estimate A are likely to be in excess of the cost. The figure of Estimate B should be attainable under favourable conditions if the maximum of efficiency is achieved. We fully appreciate that in submitting our recommendation that blocks 1, 2, 7 and 8 and the foreshore strip should be completed we

(Continued on next page.)

THE EXPECTED WHITEWASH

(Continued From Previous Page.)

are going perhaps even further than public opinion will approve, but we put forward the proposal in the belief that this work is imperatively necessary and will prove of great advantage to the City. Also we are strongly of opinion that the material advantages and amenities, especially of blocks 1 and 2, will become so apparent that there will arise a brisk demand for land in that most advantageous position. We have prepared, but do not submit, detailed estimates showing that the extension of the 300-foot strip to a further distance seaward of 400 feet, making a total width of 700 feet, could be effected at under Rs. 7 per square yard, and a further strip of 300 feet, which would result in widening the reclaimed strip to 1,000 feet, could be done for Rs. 8½ per square yard. We have also prepared, but do not append, an estimate for the reclamation of the entire area which covers a total area of 4,259,000 square yards. This shows that such area on the same basis of the most favourable conditions of working and the maximum of efficiency, ought to be reclaimable at the rate of Rs. 14 per square yard, including development and past expenditure. This figure is for the total area, making no allowance for roads, open spaces and other unproductive areas. It is not suggested that these additional strips should be reclaimed at present, but we think that in future, when prosperity returns to Bombay, the demand for land will make it practicable to undertake further gradual reclamation on these lines. If more land is now reclaimed than we have recommended there will be no immediate demand for it, save for use as open spaces, while as the work is being constructed with borrowed money it would entail an addition to the unproductive debt. We have omitted interest and sinking fund charges from the appended estimates because we are treating the matter on the basis that the money already spent has been substantially lost and because the obligation to pay interest on this amount is one that has to be met yearly from the public revenues. When, however, the military authorities pay 256 lakhs for block 8, the net loss on the work already done—that necessary to complete block 8—will be reduced to 219 lakhs and we believe that the proceeds of sales of land in blocks 1, 2, and 7 will further appreciably reduce this loss. We have not attempted to work out any tables corresponding to those prepared by Mr. Kay's Committee on the hypothesis that a certain amount of land can be sold yearly or that a certain average price can be realised for it; the disposal of the land reclaimed and its price depend on so many uncertain factors that we think that no useful purpose would be served by any forecast which we could frame. The evidence before us is conclusive that blocks 1 and 2 are the most valuable in the whole project, and we recommend that they should be completed as early as possible. No part of these blocks should be assigned for recreation purposes, the needs of which can, we hope, be met by the curved strip which we have recommended along the foreshore. These blocks should be laid out in a strictly commercial spirit, and the plans of development should be re-examined with a view to increase the area available for sale to the public and to producing the largest possible financial return.

Before commencing any of the works not already specifically sanctioned for the current working season, it is suggested that complete estimates be prepared, together with detailed plans and specifications for the work. Such further surveys as may be necessary for these estimates may be put in hand at once. Works under all heads of estimates may be proceeded with after proper detailed estimates and programmes are prepared, and the formal sanction of Government accorded thereto.

It may be remarked in passing that some of the forms of tender laying down conditions of contract and specifications issued by the Development Department have not been happily conceived, and are not calculated to promote the object in view. The conditions and restrictions laid down are too numerous or too rigid to permit of any prudent contractor undertaking the work. We should invite attention to the unsuitability of the tender form headed "Instructions to Tenderers" issued by the Department in 1926 for the supply of moorum, a printed copy of which was given to us by the Department.

180. We consider that every endeavour should be made to complete the scheme we have proposed within three or four years. By completing it expeditiously and closing the expenditure side of the capital account, the land reclaimed will be placed on the market and the amount of debt will be circumscribed, and there will be a reasonable prospect of recouping some of the losses incurred at an early date. The establishment charges will be also appreciably reduced if the work is carried out more expeditiously than is contemplated in Mr. Kay's Committee's Report. Sooner or later a time will come when there will be demand for completing this reclamation either because it will be profitable to do so, or on account of the need for extension as a part of the general development of the City. When this comes about the reclamation may be taken in hand by moorum filling exclusively. It will be possible to transport moorum from Salsette to the works site, without materially interfering with the traffic of the use of the foreshore, and with moorum filling the work will be free from difficulties and uncertainties.

ESTIMATE A (EXCLUDING INTEREST.)

(Rs. Lakhs.)

Blocks 1, 2, 7, and 8, and 300 feet wide strip in front of Blocks, 3, 4, 5, and 6 as shown on Plan.

Estimate for completion to Surface only, and not including Development except so far as the 300 feet Strip is concerned.

No. of block.	Cost of dredged filling.	Cost of moorum filling.	Storm water, drains, parapets, &c.,	Total estimated cost.	Remarks.
1	10.33	2.55	2.80	15.68	
2		23.06	3.03	26.09	
7	15.38	8.20	2.55	26.13	
8		8.47	1.28	9.75	Includes cost of
Foreshore strip.		19.04	7.33	26.37	development.
	25.71	61.32	16.99	104.02	
Works proper as above				Rs.	104.02 lakhs.
Add 10 per cent. for establishment and contingencies					10.40
					114.42
Initial grant for gradual development of reclaimed areas					20.00
				Total	134.42 or, say, 135.

ESTIMATE B (EXCLUDING INTEREST.)

Blocks 1, 2, 7, and 8 and 300 feet wide strip in front of Blocks, 3, 4, 5, and 6 as show on Plan.

Estimate for completion to Surface only, and not including Development except so far as the 300 feet Strip is concerned.

BLOCK 8.					
753,332 c. yds.	Moorum Filling in situ in Reclamation No Parapet.	1 R.			7.53.332
BLOCK 7.					
728,700 c. yds.	Moorum Filling	1 R.	7.28.700		
2,050,000 „	Dredged Filling	7 A.	8.96.875		
	Storm water drains including all charges: Mr. Elgee's Estimate	2.79.633			
	—25%	69,908			
			2.09.725		
	Parapet—Mr. Elgee's Estimate, less 25%		45.344		
					18.80.644
BLOCK 1.					
226,700 c. yds.	Filling by lorries and moorum	1 R.	2.26.700		
1,033,400 „	Dredged Filling from Back Bay, say	12 A.	7.75.050		
	Parapet—Mr. Elgee's Estimate, less 25%		75.559		
	Storm water drains do.		2.03.955		
					12.81.264
BLOCK 2.					
372,000 c. yds.	Moorum Filling	1 R.	3.72.000		
1,678,050 „	Dredged Filling	12 A.	12.58.537		
	Parapet—Mr. Elgee's Estimate less 25percent		26.316		
	Storm water drains do.		2.76.732		
					19.33.585
Strip 300 feet wide in front of Blocks, 3, 4, 5 and 6, as Shown on Plan.					
1,691,613 c. yds.	Moorum filling	1 R.	16,91.613		
	Storm water drain No. 5, Mr. Elgee's Estimate, less 25 per cent.		34.125		
	Development 100-ft. road foot paths, lighting etc., Mr. Elgee's Estimate, less 25 per cent.		5,15.458		
					22.41.196
					80.90.021
	Add—6 1/4 per cent. Establishment Charges, but taking no credit for value of plant on completion.				5.05.610
				Rs.	85.95.631
	Development 1, 2, and 7 blocks		40.37.034		
	Less—25 per cent. (for over-estimating)		10.09.258		
			30.27.776		

Assuming that only the first stage is completed, i.e., Blocks 1, 2, 7 and 8, plus the 300 feet strip in front of Blocks, 3, 4, 5 and 6, the position is as follows:—

	Rs.
Cost of completing these blocks and strip	85.95.381
Development of Blocks, 1, 2 and 7	30.27.776
Cost to 30th. June, 1926	468.05.764
	584.28.921
Less—Amount from Indian Government	256.52.000
	Rs. 327.76.921

For this the Government will get:—

Block 1	436,767	sq. yds.
„ 2	496,478	„
„ 7	654,433	„
Strip	454,444	„
=422 Acres	2,042,122	=16.05 Rs. per sq. yd.

"Sir George Buchanan has given us an explanation which after the fullest consideration we are unable to accept and the amazing fact is that no one, either in the Government of Bombay or in the Government of India, engineer or layman, ever noticed this point, which stood out on the documents before them. No one ever asked Sir George Buchanan if a dredger designed for a specified output in soft clay would give an equal result in "stiff" clay or "hard" clay. No one asked him if these varying descriptions of clay were immaterial, on the theory that the dredger could work in any type of clay with equal speed and facility."

—From Back Bay Report.

THE HON'BLE MR. COWASJI JEHANGIR.

During this period Mr. Cowasji Jehangir's position was one of great difficulty. He had to sponsor a scheme decided on before he assumed office, and as regards which he must have found it difficult to get exact information. We express our admiration of the manner in which he carried out his duties and for the clearness and frankness with which he dealt with a tangled situation. We acknowledge also the assistance which he gave to the Committee and his manifest desire that every information should be supplied to us.

SIR GEORGE BUCHANAN'S STATEMENT.

Sir George Buchanan prepared a very lengthy statement for the use of the Committee and, also during the course of his six days' examination, put in many other documents and subsidiary statements.

Having regard to the immense amount of detail in the case, and to the seriousness of the issues, he asked the Committee to allow him to be represented by Counsel, whose principal duty should be to ensure that at some time or another all the points which Sir George Buchanan wished to make were put before the Commitee. The request was a reasonable one, and it having been granted, Sir Harry Courthope-Munroe, K.C., and Mr. Melville attended on his behalf.

In the course of the examination we invited Sir Harry Courthope-Munroe to address us on the construction of the Agreement of the 17th March, 1921, and we express our indebtedness to him for his argument.

183. Sir George Buchanan's statement is a very important document, and we have incorporated some material passages from it in this Report.

We have not been able always to accept Sir George Buchanan's point of view, and indeed we have found ourselves compelled to attribute a considerable portion of the failure of the scheme to him. He made his view of the position perfectly clear to us—which was that from first to last he had in all respects done his duty—that he could not be answerable and was not in fact answerable for the conduct of the work—that no great undertaking of this character can ever proceed in all respects according to programme and that "it is easy to be wise after the event." There is force in this latter criticism, and before arriving at our conclusions the question which we have asked ourselves as regards all the principal persons connected with the inception of the scheme is—did they with such knowledge as they had and such information as was available to them give that degree of care, attention and thought to the subject as they were in duty bound to do?

184. With regard to those responsible during the conduct of the work, whether for supervision, advice, assistance, control or actual execution, we have asked ourselves if they exercised all proper skill, care, energy, foresight and diligence.

185. Before stating our conclusions we express our obligation to the Government of India and the Government of Bombay for the completeness of the official documents prepared for our use. There has been no instance either in India or in England in which a request for official information or documents has not been readily and speedily complied with and we are satisfied that to no Committee could more consideration have been given.

186. We also express our obligation to the witnesses who came forward, both in India and England, and whose evidence has in all cases been of material help to us.

187. We congratulate Mr. Norman and Mr. Cooper for their great skill in taking down the evidence in shorthand and the unusual accuracy of their script. In Bombay the work was not well done.

MR. EWBANK'S HELP.

188. We are under a debt of gratitude to the Government of India for giving us Mr. Ewbank as our Secretary. His efficiency, has been beyond praise. On no occasion has there been the slightest breakdown in even the smallest arrangements, and our work has been greatly facilitated by his knowledge of the documents and the precision of his business methods. We tender our thanks to him for services so exceptional.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

The object of the Back Bay Reclamation Scheme was, as we have already said, to reclaim from the sea an area of 1,145 acres at an estimated outlay of about Rs. 367 lakhs. Government were prepared to spend on the scheme up to Rs. 400 lakhs if necessary. A revised estimate for Rs. 702 lakhs was approved within two years of the original sanction, and if the scheme is to be completed, a second revision of the estimate will be necessary. The total cost will approximate to about 900 lakhs gross, exclusive of interest charges. This total sum will be reduced by the 256 lakhs to be received from the Military authorities and any other subsequent receipts from sales of land. The programme of the reclamation, which was to have been completed by 1926-27, has completely broken down. If it is continued under present conditions it cannot be finished for many years to come.

It is believed that land reclaimed cannot in the near future be sold at remunerative prices, and care should be exercised not to reclaim land in advance of the demand. The work is being constructed from public loans on which interest and sinking fund charges have to be met and Government are faced with a growing debt.

The difficulties in which the scheme is at present involved arise from:—

(1) the unsatisfactory character of the estimates;

(2) defective organisation;

(3) the failure of the dredging operations and

(4) the fall in land values.

The defects in the various estimates would have been avoided if there had been sufficient and careful preliminary investigation. If an alternative comparative estimate for dry filling had been prepared at the outset and the cost of adequate dredging plant properly investigated, Government might have hesitated to commit themselves to the use of suction dredgers for this scheme. A dredging scheme costing Rs. 400 lakhs was an attractive financial proposition, but it might very well be considered to have changed its character when the cost went up to 702 lakhs. Reclamation by dry filling, if then practicable, might have proved cheaper.

As regards the organisation and arrangements made for the conduct of the scheme, these in themselves were almost unworkable. A reading of clause 3 of the agreement between the Secretary of State in Council and the firm of Meik and Buchanan shows that responsibility was not clearly defined between the Engineers and the Director of Development. Much of the technical work was left to an overworked Chief Engineer or was not done at all. There was no costing system without which it was impossible properly to control expenditure.

Because nobody believed himself responsible for the due execution of the work, unwise decisions were taken and mistakes made, such, for instance, as commencing the construction of the sea wall from both ends, delay in sealing the rubble mound, undertaking dredging operations in Back Bay without consideration of cost, absence of preconcerted programmes to regulate operations, etc. All these militated against the success of the scheme and added to its cost.

The inability of the dredger to give the required output has been the chief cause of failure and has had a disastrous effect on the financial prospects of the scheme. The principal reason for the present serious position of the scheme was the ordering of the dredger on estimates and specifications put forward by Messrs. Simons and Company which were not examined with due care, the absence of proper guarantees for the sufficient output of the dredger and the acceptance of a quotation for a dredging plant without any real effort to secure competitive tenders.

The work having been undertaken in anticipation of realising large profits, the scheme was subjected to very great criticism when a period of acute trade depression set in with a consequent fall in land values. The trade depression was not a matter which could have been foreseen, although caution was necessary in undertaking a scheme of this magnitude at a time when world conditions were unstable. With the disappearance of the prospect of profits public criticism concentrated on the defects of the scheme.

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AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

CO-ORDINATION OF RESEARCH WORK

PATNA, Jan. 14.

The Royal Commission on Agriculture finished its programme of examination of witness and inspection in Pusa on January 13th. The Committee inspected yesterday sugarcane on Hasowlic Estate, the Samastipur sugar factory and Holo Estate and examined three witnesses.

Mr. Atkins of Dolatpore in his evidence advocated the thorough overhauling of the present system of agricultural marketing. He stated that the only organisation which could effectively perform this was a society formed for the sale of produce and stock. Until they could set up an organisation like this, the co-operative movement must be considered to be only a partial success. Witness considered this to be one of the means of uplifting the rural population and pointed out that the first object of starting such an organisation should be to concentrate attention on one or two major products of a locality and not to make it a general produce selling business. He thought that the usual course of development was to start a number of small organisations and then to federate them into bigger ones. They should start with a central organisation concerning the area of a central bank and after making some progress and accustoming people to the operation of the society, form small local organisations and affiliate them to the central one.

PUSA COLLEGE.

Another witness examined was Babu Ganga Vishnu of Muzaffarpur.

Mr. Joshi, representative of the Imperial Agricultural Department Association, Pusa, in his evidence suggested the formation of a Central Advisroy Council composed of representatives of the various departments of agriculture in India and also representatives of the agricultural classes, in order to bring about further correlation of research activities with those of the appropriate provincial agencies. In order to enhance the popularity of the Pusa Institute the witness suggested that the Institute should be affiliated to some leading Indian Universities to enable scholars to obtain the degree of Ph. D. or D.Sc. on the merit of a thesis after the completion of two years' research work. Provision should also be made to send some of the elected students to foreign countries for additional training and experience.

ORGANISERS' SERVICE.

Witness further suggested the institution of an agricultural organisers' service to make a systematic survey of the general problems of agriculture on which a system of research would be built up on a more satisfactory basis. These officers would be men of the same province in which they served and along with this work, should be charged with propaganda and actual field demonstrations on cultivators' land. These men would report quarterly to their respective heads of departments who after allocating various problems to various officers for solution would report to the central advisory council who would take all the necessary steps for the solution of remaining problems which the province could not undertake. Witness thought that specialists for crops like tobacco, rice, wheat and sugarcane should be entertained by the Central Government to undertake research work and to give help to any province which might be in need of it.

The Commission leaves this afternoon for Tatanagar.—A. P.

The Governor returned this morning after a brief visit to Dharamshala. His Excellency halted on his way back to converse with local officials of the principal villages "en route." The Kangra Valley Railway is being vigorously pushed on and the advent of the railway is being eagerly looked forward to by the inhabitants of the valley.—A. P.

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(4-26

RESEARCH WORK ON INDIAN DRUGS

LECTURE BY DR. MHASKAR

A large number of members of the medical profession representing British Medical Association, Grant College Society, staff of the Grant Medical College, Sunderdas College, J. J. Hospital, and King Edward Memorial Hospital assembled at the Sanitary Institute on Friday evening in response to the invitation of the Bombay Medical Union to hear the learned discourse of Dr. S. K. Mhasker on his reseach work carried out by him at the Haffkine Institute on the study of Indian Medicinal Plant "Holarrhena Ante-Dysenterica" which he demonstarted by lantern slides. He was awarded for this reseach work the Sir Bhalchandra Krishna Memorial Prize Medal by the president of the Union, Dr. S. P. Kapadia at the end of the lecture. In introducing Dr. Mhasker, the president said:—

I consider it a proud privilege to preside on this unique occasion of a meeting convened to commemorate the memory of one who has throughout his life done yeoman service to the medical profession, to the suffering humanity and to the public at large. I mean the late lamented Sir Bhalchandra Krishna, Kt. I accord you ladies and gentlemen a very cordial welcome and thank you for helping a good cause. I need not dwell at length on the distinguished career of that selfless, and public spirited professional brother.

His services to the Bombay Medical Union and the profession are too numerous to be enumerated here. He was president of the Union for over a period of ten years. In 1914 when Government appointed Islington Commission to go into the question of Public Services he was elected along with Dr. Jehangir Cursetji our representative to give evidence before the commission. Sir Bhalchandra died at the age of 70 in the year 1922. In the death of Sir Bhalchandra Bombay lost one of her most prominent citizens and the medical world one of its most honoured members. On account of his meritorious services the Union convened a meeting of the profession and resolved to commemorate his memory by awarding a gold medal out of the interest of the fund collected to a candidate who would read a thesis on a research subject especially in connection with indegeous system of medicine. Dr. Mhasker, M.D. (Bombay) D.Ph.H. D.T.M. is the first recipient of this medal and as such I tender him my hearty congratulations. He is a research scholar for the last 14 years and has been conducting his researches at the Haffkine Institute for over two years. I would now request Dr. Mhasker to read his paper.

Dr. K. S. Mhasker then in the course of his lecture said:

'Holarrhena Antidysenterica (Kurchi) possesses a great reputation in Indian medical literature as a cure for many diseases, and particularly for diarrhoea and dysentery, but has not been studied scientifically. The plant is widely distributed throughout India and Burma. The seeds (Indrajav) and the bark are among the most important medicines of the Hindu materia medica and enter into the composition of a good many prescriptions commonly used by Vaids and Hakims. Experiments showed that the therapeutic activity of the drug is not, as is commonly supposed, entirely due to one active principle—usually the alkaloid or the glucoside,—but is fairly equally distributed among the other constituents of the bark and the seeds, excepting lignin and cellulose. The chemistry of the plant and its pharmacological actions are instructive in a way but give no indication of its therapeutic value. The bark and the seed have no antiseptic power and very little toxicity. They paralyse the respiratory centre and cause a fall of blood pressure. They have no astringent effect and they increase the tone of the intestines. The alkaloid conessine—is toxic to the heart, and therapeutically, is more useful as an antiperiodic (in fevers) than as an antidysenteric.

The bark and the seed are good bitters, increasing appetite and digestive power; and their antidysenteric value compares favourably with any of the medicines now in vogue. Of the properties ascribed to the drug it can definitely be said that it is neither anthelmintic, nor stimulant, nor astringent, nor styptic. The drug can best be given as a fresh infusion or all alcoholic extract; and though it can not replace the well known drugs for diarrhoea and dysentery, it is a good addition to the Pharmacopoeia, and affords a safe, cheap, reliable and easily administered remedy for diarrhoeic and dysenteric troubles. Khan Bahadur Dr. N. H. Choksey in according a vote of thanks to Dr. Mhasker requested him to carry out research work of another Indian drug called Hydnocarpus which was considered very effective for leprosy and similar other deaduly diseases.

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AMONGST THE BHILS OF PANCHMAHALS.

SJ. A. V. THAKKAR'S LAUDABLE EFFORTS.

The fourth Annual report of the Bhil Seva Mandal, Dohad, is an interesting record of useful and effective work.

The Bhil Sewa Mandal has gradually extended its activities in the field of education of the Bhils, three Ashrams or boarding-schools where the students—board and lodge in the school premises at the expense of the Mandal, and seven schools of which altogether 400 Bhil children take advantage are conducted by the Mandal. Education is of course free and the inmates of the boarding schools are provided with clothes and educational materials also. The Mandal has started a medical department under the control of two Ayurvedic Caidyas. There are two Ayurvedic dispensaries—one at Dohad and the other at Limdi. The Mandal has taken upon itself as one of its principal activities to preach (prohibition among Bhils; and the workers were successful in inducing the local Government to issue orders to keep the liquor shops at Jesawada, Kadala and Vijagadh closed during the Ram Navmi Fair which is attended by the Bhils alll over their area.

The Bhils are not an irreligious sect. They are followers of Shri Ramchandra and they greet each other with the words 'Rama Rama' To spread religious knowledge among them and to revive their religious instinct, the Mandal has by the generous help of Mr. Samal Behechar a philanthropist citizen of Baroda erected a Rama Mandir at Jesawada, a village about eight miles off from Dohad the central Settlement of Mandal. Moreover, the students in the schools and ashramas recite prayers morning and evening. The Mandal consists of 16 full time volunteers five of whom have determined to dedicate 20 years of their life in the service of the Bhils. The rest had joined the Mandal for a period of three years but almost all of them are desirous of dedicating 20 years more, their object in life being the uplift of the Bhils—the lowly, neglected downtrodden and oppressed community of India. The affairs of the Mandal are controlled by a Committee of seven workers including five life workers. Mr. A. V. Thakkar, the president—Founder of the Mandal undertook an extensive tour in the Central Provinces Assam, Behar and Chota Nagpur in the beginning of 1926, with a view to study the conditions of the aborigines in these parts of the country. Babu Jyoti Bhushan Sen of the Servants of India Society greatly helpful to him in the fulfilment of his object. Mr. Thakkar had to move about in different parts of Goojerat and Kathiawad in connection with the activities of the Mandal and various other activities with which he is connected.

The volunteers of the Mandal and other workers have started a co-operative Fund with a view to help any of them in meeting with unforeseen expenses. The Society has been registered as a co-operative Society. Rs. 400/- out of the funds of the society have ben lent to two Bhil co-operative societies. The financial condition of the mandal is continually causing a certain amount of anxiety. Although the Gujerat Provincial Congress Committee contributes the extent of one third of the total expenditure and two friends of the mandal contribute an aggregate amount of Rs. 450/- per month, the workers have to move about to collect about Rs. 10,000/- every year. At the end of the year under report the mandal is under a debt of Rs. 2,140-7-3. In the beginning of the year the Art Society of Baroda staged a benefit show which brought Rs. 138/- to the society. Khan Saheb Adarji Mancherji Dalal of Broach has donated a 4 per cent. Port Trust Bond to the Mandal towards its permanent fund. The Mandal takes this opportunity to thank them heartily.

RASH MOTOR CAR DRIVING

MR. C. H. MARTYN CONVICTED.

CAWNPORE, Jan. 15.

In the case in which Mr. C. H. Martyn of Messrs. Begg Sutherland and Co. was charged with causing the death of Sergeant Purser, by driving his car rashly and negligently on the Race Course road Cawnpore on Dec. 19, the Magistrate sentenced the accused to pay a fine of Rs. 1,000 or to undergo 3 months' rigorous imprisonment in default. The Magistrate also directed that his driving licence should be suspended for one year.—A. P.

MEXICAN OILWELLS.

GOVT. REFUSES PERMIT FOR COMPANIES.

LONDON, Jan. 15.

Tampico.—The Mexican Government has refused permit for companies, which have not recognised the new land and petroleum laws to drill oil-wells. Oil experts say that the decision will seriously affect the production of oil rendering thousands idle and causing loss not only to the companies but to local commerce. Work will be suspended in the various camps of the Mexican Oil Company and subsidiaries. It is estimated that 45 drills were ready to be sunk that would have given employment to 300 workers.—Reuter.

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